

SPORTS REVIEW

Winter 1983

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Wrestling

1983 ANNUAL

**LARRY
ZBYSZKO:
A LOOK
BACK**

**SGT. SLAUGHTER:
"I'LL WHIP
ANGELO MOSCA
BACK INTO
SHAPE!"**



**Worldwide Conspiracy
Revealed:
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WILL NEVER
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Pays For Itself • R.S. Clark, Springfield, Ohio: "I bought a batch of walnut in the rough, and after planing it on the Foley-Belsaw I figured up the money I saved. It was enough to pay for two-thirds the cost of the Planer. It really does a good job."

More Than Expected • Stephen Schultz, Orangeville, Penna.: "This machine pays for itself by making money out of scrap boards. It is a very well built machine and I confess it is more than I really expected for the price. It does everything you say it will!"

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JAY HEDDEN — Editor WORKBENCH Magazine

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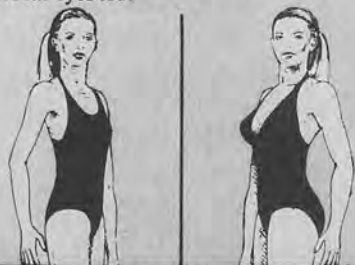
The fact is, **Body Builder-P** is for anyone who has ever wanted or needed to gain weight... because it's easy, because it's fast, because it's safe and most important of all because it works!

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FOR WOMEN

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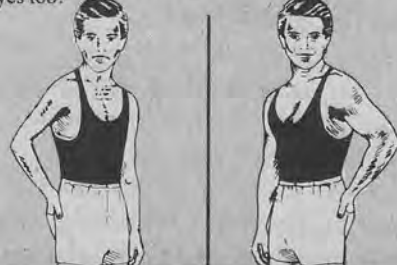
Why worry and hide in baggy clothes when you could be showing off a beautiful body! You'll see what a difference **Body Builder-P** can make in just one week! You can look forward to those feminine curves... see the seductive new you blossom right before your eyes... and just as important... right before his eyes too!



FOR MEN

Spindly legs... weakling arms... scrawny chest... don't suffer when you can do something about it and become the man you want to be.

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THIN and BONY to BODY BEAUTIFUL



Chris Sabatino, 1981, Class I NBA, Teenage Mr. America
"I was down to 135 lbs. of skin and bone when I built up 37 lbs. of muscle and became a champion. Now, you can use my **Body Builder-P** as part of your exercise program to gain weight and put some flesh on those bones. Girls, add curves, fill out, and get the figure you always wanted. Men, add inches of muscle and get an impressive manly body. You can do it! But don't wait. Order NOW!"

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So, don't wait even one more minute. Order your **Body Builder-P** NOW! If for any reason you're not 100% satisfied, simply return the unused portion within 30 days for a prompt refund (less p&h, of course), NO QUESTIONS ASKED! Don't delay. Mail in the coupon today!

MEN—If you picked the handsome, manly body, but right now you look like a skinny weakling, **Body Builder-P** will make you the man you want to be!

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P.O. Box 1049, Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583

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Wrestling

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my method of DYNAMIC-TENSION starts giving you results you can feel and your friends will notice. Big, useful muscles. Gain pounds in weight where needed.

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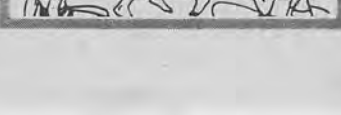
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THESEZ STILL THE BEST

An open letter to Harley Race:

All I've been hearing since you won the NWA World belt from Ric Flair is that you're the best ever and that you finally broke Lou Thesz' record of six NWA title reigns. You say you've set a record no man will ever surpass. Well,

of a long time to break that record, so start counting! Thesz is still the best.

LESLIE PENDLEY
Corpus Christi, TX

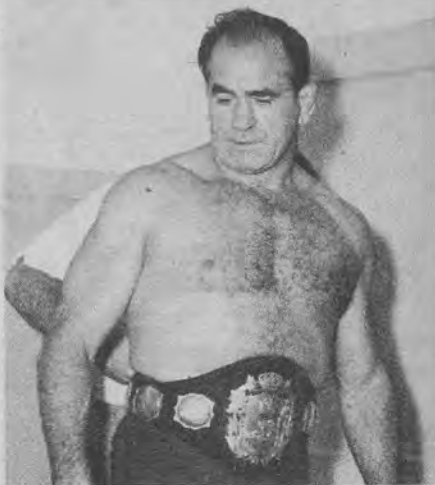
SUNSHINE'S A SLIME

I think it's about time someone gave recognition to David Von

Erich for spanking Jim Garvin's valet, Sunshine. I've read letters from Houston, Amarillo, and all over Texas saying how ungentlemanly it was for David to spank Sunshine. Those people don't live in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area so they wouldn't know what it's like being around Sunshine twice a week—and then to watch her two more times per week on television! If they lived here, they would know what kind of a slime Sunshine is. I seriously doubt whether Garvin could win a match without her interference.

If people have complaints about what David did to Sunshine, they shouldn't write to wrestling magazines about it, they should call the humane society—Sunshine's just an ugly dog! If I were her, I would think seriously about doing something with myself! She doesn't wear makeup, she looks like a paleface; her hair is all ragged out and stringy; she needs to lose about 20 pounds to look halfway decent in those spandex pants.

I think if one of the Von Erichs would take her and slam her down
(Continued on page 8)



Lou Thesz was a greater NWA World champion than seven-time tittist Harley Race can ever hope to be, contends reader Leslie Pendley.

Thesz may have only held the belt six times, but his title reigns add up to a total of more than 12 years. You're going to have to remain NWA World champion for a hell



Jim Garvin's valet, Sunshine, prevents Garvin from reentering the ring during a match in Dallas. Sunshine is not the recipient of very much respect from anyone, least of all reader Dee Dee Bonner.

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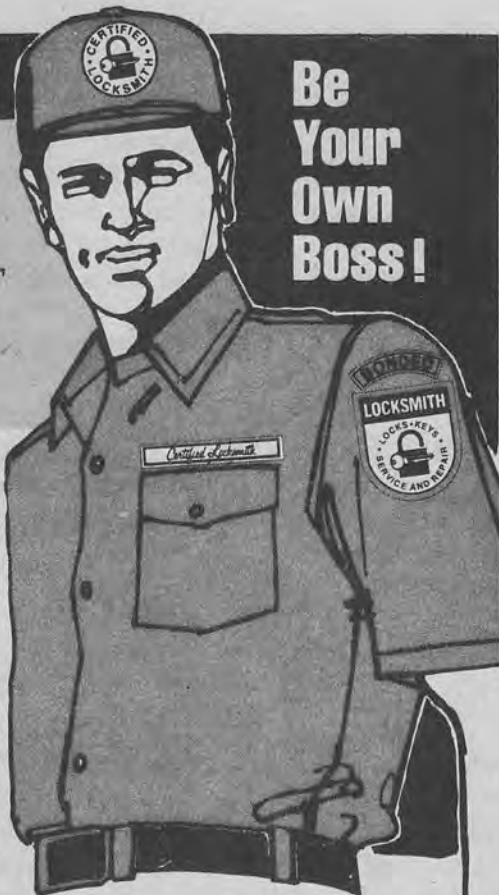
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"No more hard, nasty work for me. Now I have my own business and with hardly any effort I average around \$50 a day. Thanks for my new start in life."

Sam Walker Prichard, Alabama



...YOU Can Do It Too!

MAILBAG

(Continued from page 6)

on the mat she might consider leaving them and everyone else alone. But every one of the Von Erichs is too much of a gentleman to do anything like that to a so-called lady.

DEE DEE BONNER
Arlington, TX

BRAVO BRUNO

I want to thank *Sports Review Wrestling Annual* for publishing the special section by my favorite wrestler of all time, Bruno Sammartino ("Bruno Sammartino: 'My 10 Toughest Matches,'" Fall 1983).

I've never had the pleasure of seeing men like Waldo Von Erich or The Sheik wrestle, and I can only imagine what kinds of battles Bruno must have had against Larry Zbyszko, Ken Patera, Stan Hansen, or Superstar Graham. Bruno's comments made some of those bat-

tles come alive for me, even though I was never there.

The only time I ever saw Bruno wrestle was in his last match against George "The Animal" Steele in New Jersey's Meadowlands arena. Bruno took care of Steele in a way Bob Backlund could only dream about.

Again, thank you all for a superb section. Bruno always was and always will be the best.

JOE ARBUS
Bronx, NY

THE GREATEST TAG TEAM

An open letter to the Rock 'n' Roll Express, Rick Morton and Robert Gibson:

In our opinion, you are the greatest tag team ever to hit the Tennessee area. With all the fan support you have, we're confident you can defeat anyone.

It's too bad that more people don't recognize the fact that the Rock 'n' Roll Express is the best team anywhere. Whenever Rick and Robert smile, or get angry in the ring, or deliver their superb double dropkick, it drives us crazy! They have so much in the way of talent and good looks that they're certain to win the hearts of millions of fans, not to mention any tag team belt that they challenge for anywhere in the country.

Rick and Robert, we respect you both as wrestlers, and we know you're truly the best in the sport. We want to tell you that we support you, and we also thank you for all the thrills you've given us in the past, and will give us in the future. Good luck—you're the best, and you deserve the best.

PHYLLIS PRUITT
CHRISTIE MELVIN
Tishomingo, MS □



Bruno Sammartino clamps an armlock down on George "The Animal" Steele. An article by Bruno, "My 10 Toughest Matches," printed in our Fall 1983 issue, received a great deal of praise from our readers.

SYNOMETRICS...an Olympic Champion's Discovery!

Ike Berger Today.



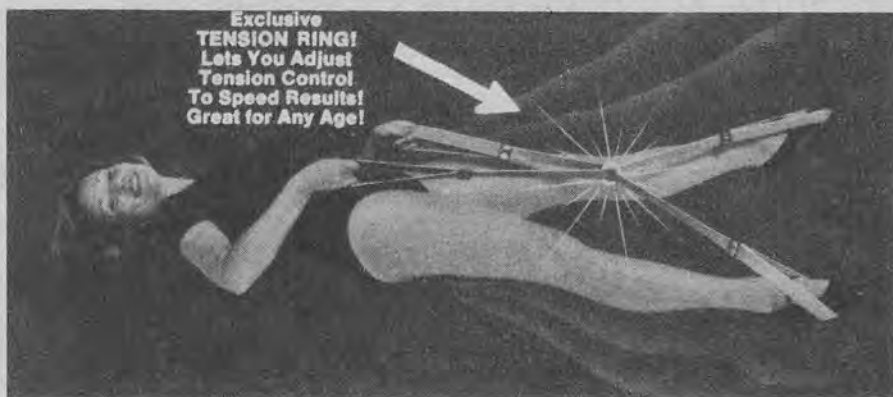
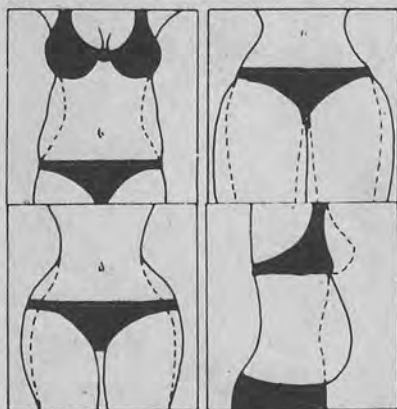
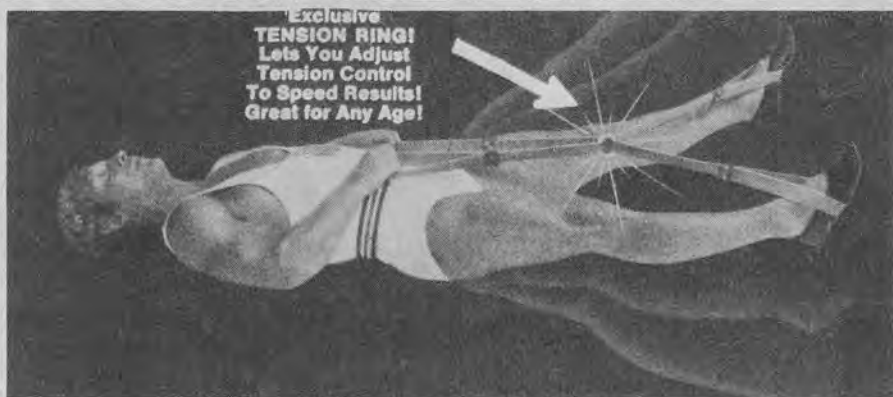
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IKE BERGER explains SYNOMETRICS™...the new EASY speed method for figure beauty

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The Science of SYNOMETRICS
I later learned the scientific reason for this amazing result. It's called SYNER-

GISM—meaning that when you combine two methods the result is greater than the both of them separately. I now called my new discovery SYNOMETRICS and developed a special exercise unit I call the SPEED SHAPER. And that's just what it is...a speed method to give you results in minutes, NOT hours! Now...build yourself a "fantastic looking body" with the incredible SYNOMETRICS—the invention that works on the exciting new scientific concept of ISOTONIC + ISOMETRIC.

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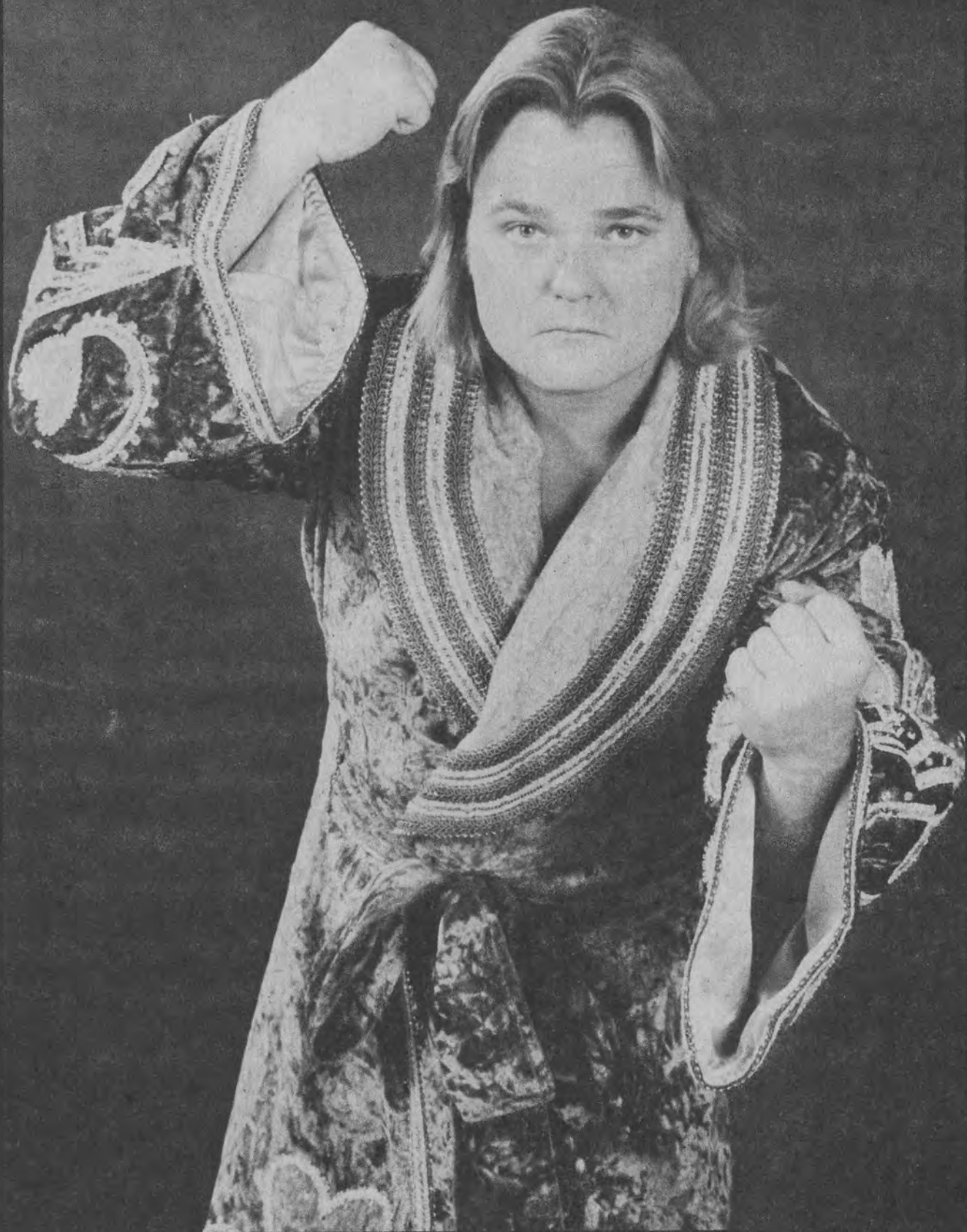
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THE MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT

Whatever it is you need or want, Witchcraft can get it for you quickly, easily, and automatically, say these experts. You'll discover how it can bring abundant and overflowing wealth, find or bring back a lover, ward off evil influences, and much more—step-by-step in plain English, with complete easy-to-follow instructions!

Yes... Witchcraft! Every time you hear the word it brings with it the feelings of deep occult secrets—secrets that you would like to know so that your life can be better; so that your enemies will stop bothering you; so that serenity, love, power and comfort can be yours!

THE MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT lays bare these secrets for the first time! Do you want a bank account bursting at the seams with money? A love life that would make a sultan envious? Supreme power to crush your enemies and reward your friends? What would it be worth to you to utter a simple incantation that would cause any pain to vanish? Or say another, and immediately recover some lost object?

What would it be worth to you to fly through time and space, on astral wings, as Witches do... go wherever you wish... do whatever you wish... without being detected... watch the antics of others behind closed doors... hear private conversations... make time run forward or backward... read tomorrow's newspaper in a "black mirror"... find out what really happened in history... make your face old or young at will!

BRINGS AUTOMATIC ASSURED SUCCESS!

Witchcraft can bring your heart's desire! You can use it to heal someone, influence the boss to give you that raise, or make someone stop bothering you! It's easy! The easiest thing in the world! You don't have to be wealthy or super-intelligent to get started! Thousands of ordinary people all over the world are using Witchcraft Power right now!

Witches have known for centuries that people are scared of them and their powers! And rightly so! **NOW YOU CAN SHARE THE SAME POWER** that gives you literally-life and death control over other persons! Is someone bothering you? No problem at all, with Magic Witchcraft. For example, there is a spell called the "Cross Not My Path" ritual, for people who are having neighbor trouble. When you use it, you know you will never again have trouble with this neighbor!

With these amazing Witchcraft secrets, other people will look up to you—in awe—you'll automatically dazzle others with your power to make things happen at your will, you'll be Master of your destiny, and never have to apologize to anyone for anything!

Whatever you want or need, whatever frustration is bothering you, Witchcraft will help you. It is not evil—nor is it Black Magic. Like electricity, it is simply a power given by nature for the use of men, to make life easier.

You'll see how to get paid without working... how to get expensive clothes and furs FREE... how to get a first-class plane seat FREE... how to vacation at the finest hotels, motels, pools and pleasure palaces, start living like a millionaire as Witches do!

AMAZING TECHNIQUE HAS HELPED THOUSANDS!

Witchcraft secrets like these can make you rich faster than anything else in the world! Here's how others have used them to make

IN THIS WITCH BOOK YOU'LL DISCOVER...

- How to Cast Spells that Really Work!
- Your Magic Window on the World!
- Personal Protection!
- Telepathy Made Easy!
- Influencing Others to Do Your Bidding!
- Controlling a Conversation!
- The Technique of Silent Persuasion!
- Using Witchcraft to Find Friends!
- How to Find the Lover You Want!
- How to Bring Your Perfect Mate to You!
- How to Dominate Others!
- Witchcraft Power for Money!
- Witchcraft Power to Make You Irresistible to Others!
- Spells for Finding Lost Objects!
- How to Always Win with Luck Spells!
- More Power for Bigger Goals!
- Inhaling Cosmic Energy!
- Recharging Your Cosmic Batteries!
- Raising Your Vital Energy Level!
- How to Keep Evil Forces Away!

miracles happen in their daily lives!

You'll see how Vern, a man who likes to give a lot of expensive parties, was always short of cash until he discovered the amazing **WITCH'S MONEY JAR**—now all he has to do is dip in, for it brings him an endless flow of cash! Evelyn, a waitress, was always lending money to friends, and was always broke. Finally, she placed her last dollar on the table, and worked the **MONEY MAGNET SPELL** over it. All at once, dozens of people who had borrowed money from her, rushed to pay her back!

Hank was perpetually broke. One night he got together with some friends, and they decided to cast the **MONEY SPELL**. The very next day, Hank received in the mail a check for some \$250 worth of insurance. (He had never heard of the company that sent the check, he was not insured with them, and had never even made a claim—but he accepted the money.) Another member of the group that used the spell, a 40-year-old secretary, received an automobile as a gift! All the other members of the group received amazing windfalls of money, as well! You'll see how Dexter, a retiree, lives **RENT FREE** and receives \$200 a week at the age of 78, with a secret you'll find in this Witch Book! You'll see how Claudine, a secretary, was able to wear the finest, most expensive furs—**FREE**—and spend weekends at an expensive ski lodge in the mountains, where she met a wonderful man! How Ruth L., a widow—with nothing but a small pension, and a little savings—received her dream home, by using a simple 5-minute ritual on page 38 of this book!

Using the same Witchcraft secrets, **YOU** can achieve peace of mind and freedom from money worries for the rest of your life!

YOU CAN HEAL YOURSELF AS WITCHES DO!

Feeling sick today? Plagued by a lot of troublesome illnesses? Perhaps some relative is sick and constantly demanding your attention? Or perhaps it is even a pet that needs help? With the **MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT**, you can cure anything, say authors Gavin and Yvonne Frost: "In our experience... we have not found a single incurable disease!"

• **ANDY DISSOLVES A GALLSTONE!**—Andy M. developed gallstones. When his illness became too troublesome to ignore, he went to a doctor. Urine tests revealed that he was chronically alkaline. His body was badly out of balance. Using this Witchcraft method to restore balance to the mind and body—in a short while, X-rays showed that he had no more gallstones! Andy never again suffered the excruciating pain of passing stones!

In the same way, say Gavin and Yvonne Frost, almost all illness can be prevented. You are actually employing an ancient Witchcraft method to remove diseased tissue! Even if you do not have any belief in the results, the power will work for you!

One woman, who had been in a wheelchair for 26 years, due to polio and arthritis, used the Witchcraft healing method, and reported that she had no pain and could walk and garden again! A man reported that his son's deep 3rd degree burns miraculously healed overnight!

• **SO SIMPLE A CHILD USES IT!**—A 4-year-old girl asked if she could try to heal a man who was limping—due to a torn ligament—with this simple Witchcraft healing method. In a matter of moments, she started her chant, laying her hands on the weak ankle. The man was miraculously cured! To skeptics, this should be convincing **PROOF** that anyone can use it!

AMAZING POWER CAN BE YOURS!

Whether you want infinite wealth, or just a comfortable new home, financial security, fine possessions, love, companionship, new health and vigor, power to control others, secret knowledge, protection from evil, or anything else, the magic power of Witchcraft can bring it to you quickly, easily and automatically! It's the easiest thing in the world!

HOW TO SEE INTO THE FUTURE!—Would you like to be able to see the future? You can! With the magic Black Mirror you'll see how to make on page 23. All you need is some ink and a bowl of water. Then use the chant on this page, and you will be able to see many things. One man uses it to read tomorrow's newspaper. You can use it to check the stock market or that important horse race!

• **MAKE TIME RUN BACKWARD OR FORWARD!**—A



MEET THE AUTHORS

GAVIN FROST, B.Sc., Ph.D., D.D., is Archbishop of the Church of Wicca, New Bern, North Carolina with national headquarters in Salem, Missouri, branches in several states and worldwide membership. He is Marshal of the Gold Star of England, with the right to wear the Saffron Robe and one of the very few Witches in the Western Hemisphere privileged to wear the authentic mark of initiation on his wrist. Although descended from a long line of mystics and scholars, and formerly a Vice-President and Director of International Operations for major aerospace companies, he prefers to be thought of as a humble teacher.

Mrs. YVONNE FROST, A.A., D.D., with her husband Gavin Frost, devotes her time to giving private instruction and publishing *Survival*, the newsletter of the Church of Wicca, of which she is a Bishop.

Articles by or about Gavin and Yvonne Frost have appeared in such national publications as *Midnight* and the *National Enquirer*.

FREE... The Witches Protection Amulet

For Just Examining The Witch Book...

When you receive your copy of **THE MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT**, we will send you the witches protection pentagon amulet (See p. 26) that will protect you from evil. Whether you keep the book or not, this handsome, powerful amulet is yours as a gift. So send in this no-risk coupon right now!



3/4 inch dia.

Witch uses ancient methods to make time stand still or to run it backward or forward! To make your face look young or old at will, all you need is some morning dew, and the instructions on page 27. You can fly through time and space, on astral wings, go anywhere, do anything, with the simple method on page 126. You can visit a friend, look in on an acquaintance and see what he is doing—even appear in someone's dreams, and convince that person to do whatever you wish!

• **SECRETS OF SILENT PERSUASION!**—There is a magic handshake that Witches often use, revealed on page 62. With this secret, you can implant a thought in someone's mind! You can use this Witchcraft power to dominate others! Control your boss! Make someone love you! Leave your enemies groveling in the dust! There is even a gazing technique Witches use on page 45, for identical thoughts. With this secret, you can read your friend's mind and share his or her identical thoughts!

SEND TODAY FOR YOUR NO-RISK COPY!

Witchcraft can make you rich, even in a ghetto! You should never have to worry about the rent, or where the next dollar is coming from, never have to apologize to a boss! No matter how poor you are now, **THE MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT** can bring you a life filled to the brim with pleasure, wealth, and all the glittering luxuries of the world! To get your copy of this amazing Witch Book, simply fill out and mail the no-risk coupon!

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Gentlemen: Please rush me a copy of **THE MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT**, by Gavin and Yvonne Frost! I enclose \$10.95 plus \$2 postage and handling. I may examine this book for a full 30 days entirely at your risk or purchase price back and whatever I decide the **FREE Amulet** is mine!

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Now! Let This Amazing Witch Book Bring You INFINITE WEALTH, FINE POSSESSIONS, A COMFORTABLE NEW HOME, FINANCIAL SECURITY, LOVE, CONTROL OVER OTHERS, And More—Easily And Automatically!

For centuries, these Witchcraft secrets were hushed up, so that those in power could stay in power! Feudal lords kept their bondsmen as slaves. Factory owners kept their employees in dreaded sweatshops, because these masters knew they must not allow their workers to realize that they need not labor their lives away. Witchcraft was suppressed because it works! Not because of any "evil" in it. If it hadn't worked, no one would have worried about it. If you want to gain power, all you need is this amazing Witch Book!

By using these Witchcraft secrets, you too can change your life and gain health, wealth, someone to love—or anything else—surely, swiftly and automatically!

• **THE WITCH'S MONEY JAR!**—You'll discover the secret of the Witch's Money Jar, a mysterious jar that fills with money—whenever you want or need it! All you need is some water, pennies, and an ordinary jar or bowl! You'll be amazed at the speed with which it fills with money—a seemingly endless supply of needed cash!

• **THE WITCH'S MONEY MAGNET!**—You'll see how to magnetize a dollar bill so that it multiplies! All you need to make your own Witch's Money Magnet is a dollar bill, a green candle, and the words on page 38. Once you do this, your dollar will double and keep doubling! You'll enjoy glittering luxuries, and start living like a millionaire, as Witches do!

• **THE WITCH'S BLACK MIRROR!**—Just as your TV set has been called your "window on the world," so the Black Mirror is your "window on the psychic world"—the world of the unknown. Making your own personal Black Mirror takes only a few moments and can open the way to unguessable visions. All you need is a bowl of water, some ink, and the chant on page 23. Suddenly you will see scenes from other places and times, or any scene you wish to see!

RATINGS ANALYSIS

This column will tell fans how we go about rating more than 150 wrestlers in 14 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important—and respected—ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans

Not quite Top 10 material. Greg Valentine will no doubt experience mixed emotions when he looks over the ratings on pages 14 and 15.

He'll be pleased to see himself in the number one spot in both the NWA and Mid-Atlantic categories. These rankings are based primarily on the fact that he has held and defended the U.S. title for several months, facing many prime opponents in the process.



Greg Valentine

He'll no doubt also be pleased to find himself rated number five in Georgia. This rating comes as a result of Valentine having followed Roddy Piper from the Mid-Atlantic and making himself a powerful force on the Georgia scene in a very short time.

He might also smile at the fact that he's achieved a number five rating in the Most Hated category. Although Valentine wears the U.S. belt, the manner in which he took that belt—mutilating former U.S. champion Roddy Piper's ear—remains despised by fans around the world.

So with all these high rankings, why doesn't Greg Valentine find his name among the Top 10?

"The NWA and Mid-Atlantic rankings, where Valentine is concerned, are virtually automatic," *Sports Review Annual* Senior Editor Bill Apter explained. "Valentine holds the U.S. title, and we can't do anything about that. And if it was solely up to me, he'd be rated number one in Most Hated, as well.

"But it takes more than just a belt to be considered for the Top 10," Apter continued. "It takes inherent skill, application of that skill, a superior won-loss record for the past month, and a certain level of earned respect. Valentine has some inherent skill, but all he

applies to his opponents is brutality. He has gained no respect whatsoever from the ratings committee. That's why he's not in the Top 10."

And that's an explanation that Valentine may not be pleased about at all.

Comparatively speaking ... Part of what makes professional wrestling ratings so interesting for the fans is being able to compare this issue's ratings with last issue's ratings ... or last year's, for that matter.

From time to time, "Ratings Analysis" will select several wrestlers and compare their rankings from last issue to those of this issue, noting what all fans should be aware of: the relative movements of particular wrestlers within categories over a particular period of time.



Rick Martel

Rick Martel drops from number two in the AWA to number four due to his involvement in tag team matches with Dino Bravo and his lack of title shots against Nick Bockwinkel ... **Hulk Hogan**, not rated in the AWA last issue, makes his re-appearance at the number two position after winning his first four matches upon his return to the U.S. ... **Pistol Pez Whatley**, in light of several major victories in the Georgia area, secures the number six position there ... **Playboy Buddy Rose**, sporting a new wrestling philosophy in the Pacific Northwest, enters the Most Popular ratings this issue at number seven ... Because of the aid he has given wrestlers such as Dusty Rhodes, Barry Windham, and Blackjack Mulligan across Florida, **Angelo Mosca** jumps from the number eight spot to number five in that state ... No longer the number one contender for Bob Backlund's WWF title, **Sgt. Slaughter** drops three notches to number four in the WWF.

□

"IT WORKS!"

See For Yourself! It's Time You Add Your Name To The List!

GUARANTEED TO WORK FOR YOU OR PAY NOTHING!

OFFICIAL WRESTLIN

Ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler. These ratings are compiled by the editors and are universally recognized as official.



Mil Mascaras



Hulk Hogan

TOP10

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1— HARLEY RACE
253, Kansas City, MO | 6— BOB BACKLUND
242, Princeton, MN |
| 2— ANDRE THE GIANT
497, Grenoble, France | 7— MIL MASCARAS
242, Mexico City, Mexico |
| 3— DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX | 8— BARRY WINDHAM
230, Sweetwater, TX |
| 4— NICK BOCKWINKEL
245, Beverly Hills, CA | 9— HULK HOGAN
320, Venice Beach, CA |
| 5— RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN | 10— DINO BRAVO
248, Montreal, Quebec |

MOST POPULAR

- 1—**ANDRE THE GIANT**
497, Grenoble, France
- 2—**DUSTY RHODES**
302, Austin, TX
- 3—**RODDY PIPER**
231, Scotland
- 4—**JUNKYARD DOG**
260, New Orleans, LA
- 5—**JIMMY SNUKA**
250, Fiji Islands
- 6—**TOMMY RICH**
238, Hendersonville, TN
- 7—**PLAYBOY BUDDY ROSE**
245, Minneapolis, MN
- 8—**KERRY VON ERICH**
251, Denton, TX
- 9—**BARRY WINDHAM**
230, Sweetwater, TX
- 10—**BOB BACKLUND**
242, Princeton, MN

MOST HATED

- 1—**RON BASS**
285, Pampa, FL
- 2—**HACKSAW REED**
249, Kansas City, MO
- 3—**LARRY ZBYSZKO**
240, Pittsburgh, PA
- 4—**BOB SWEETAN**
285, Round Rock, TX
- 5—**GREG VALENTINE**
243, Seattle, WA
- 6—**TED DiBIASE**
247, Omaha, NE
- 7—**BUZZ SAWYER**
240, St. Petersburg, FL
- 8—**KEVIN SULLIVAN**
235, Boston, MA
- 9—**MAGNIFICENT MURACO**
262, Sunset Beach, HI
- 10—**ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER**
360, Sudan

NWA and AWA ratings are compiled with the assistance of wrestlers, promoters, and reporters. "Most Popular" and "Most Hated" ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on mail that comes to our offices.

TAG TEAMS

- 1—**JACK & JERRY BRISCO**
Combined Weight: 455 pounds
- 2—**KEN PATERA & CRUSHER BLACKWELL**
Combined Weight: 710 pounds
- 3—**THE ROAD WARRIORS**
Combined Weight: 567 pounds
- 4—**ELIJAH AKEEM & KAREEM MUHAMMAD**
Combined Weight: 578 pounds
- 5—**TERRY ALLEN & HACKSAW DUGGAN**
Combined Weight: 525 pounds
- 6—**THE FREEBIRDS**
Combined Weight: 791 pounds*
- 7—**THE SAMOANS**
Combined Weight: 598 pounds
- 8—**STEVE KEIRN & STAN LANE**
Combined Weight: 479 pounds
- 9—**PAT PATTERSON & PIERRE LEFEBVRE**
Combined Weight: 476 pounds
- 10—**BUZZ TYLER & BULLDOG BOB BROWN**
Combined Weight: 584 pounds

*Combined weights reflect three team members

NWA

World Champion:
HARLEY RACE

253, Kansas City, MO

- 1—**GREG VALENTINE**
243, Seattle, WA
- 2—**RIC FLAIR**
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 3—**LARRY ZBYSZKO**
240, Pittsburgh, PA
- 4—**RUFUS R. JONES**
287, Boston, MA
- 5—**RON BASS**
285, Pampa, TX
- 6—**JOS LeDUC**
280, Godbout, Quebec
- 7—**SUPER DESTROYER**
271, parts unknown
- 8—**MR. WRESTLING II**
232, Atlanta, GA
- 9—**DAVID VON ERICH**
247, Denton, TX
- 10—**BOB ARMSTRONG**
229, Marietta, GA

AWA

World Champion:
NICK BOCKWINKEL
245, Beverly Hills, CA

- 1—**HULK HOGAN**
320, Venice Beach, CA
- 2—**MAD DOG VACHON**
225, Algeria
- 3—**MR. SAITO**
247, Japan
- 4—**RICK MARTEL**
236, Quebec City, Quebec
- 5—**WAHOO McDANIEL**
260, Midland, TX
- 6—**KEN PATERA**
256, Portland, OR
- 7—**CRUSHER BLACKWELL**
474, Stone Mountain, GA
- 8—**JESSE VENTURA**
270, Muscle Beach, CA
- 9—**GREG GAGNE**
220, Robinsdale, MN
- 10—**BARON VON RASCHKE**
271, Germany

CIAL G RATINGS

Below are the ratings for the top regional wrestling areas of the country. These ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestlers, promoters, and reporters.

WWF

Champion:

BOB BACKLUND

242, Princeton, MN

- 1—**MASKED SUPERSTAR**
282, Atlanta, GA
- 2—**MAGNIFICENT MURACO**
262, Sunset Beach, HI
- 3—**JIMMY SNUKA**
250, Fiji Islands
- 4—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**
310, Paris Island, SC
- 5—**JOHN STUDD**
364, Washington, DC
- 6—**TITO SANTANA**
245, Mission, TX
- 7—**ROCKY JOHNSON**
244, Washington, DC
- 8—**TONY ATLAS**
247, Roanoke, VA
- 9—**IVAN PUTSKI**
242, Krakow, Poland
- 10—**IVAN KOLOFF**
249, Russia

GEORGIA

- 1—**LARRY ZBYSKO**
240, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2—**MR. WRESTLING II**
232, Atlanta, GA
- 3—**TOMMY RICH**
238, Hendersonville, TN
- 4—**BUZZ SAWYER**
240, St. Petersburg, FL
- 5—**GREG VALENTINE**
243, Seattle, WA
- 6—**PEZ WHATLEY**
238, El Paso, TX
- 7—**RODDY PIPER**
231, Scotland
- 8—**RONNIE GARVIN**
231, Montreal, Quebec
- 9—**BRETT WAYNE**
242, St. Petersburg, FL
- 10—**OLE ANDERSON**
256, Minneapolis, MN

WORLD CLASS

- 1—**JIM GARVIN**
235, Tampa, FL
- 2—**DAVID VON ERICH**
247, Denton, TX
- 3—**KEVIN VON ERICH**
254, Denton, TX
- 4—**MICHAEL HAYES**
255, Marietta, GA
- 5—**KERRY VON ERICH**
251, Denton, TX
- 6—**MIL MASCARAS**
242, Mexico City, Mexico
- 7—**KAMALA**
360, Uganda
- 8—**ICEMAN PARSONS**
242, St. Louis, MO
- 9—**BUDDY ROBERTS**
247, Del City, OK
- 10—**TERRY GORDY**
289, Chatanooga, TN

MID-ATLANTIC

- 1—**GREG VALENTINE**
243, Seattle, WA
- 2—**RUFUS R. JONES**
287, Boston, MA
- 3—**RODDY PIPER**
231, Scotland
- 4—**BUGSY McGRAW**
245, New York, NY
- 5—**THE GREAT KABUKI**
252, Singapore
- 6—**DORY FUNK, JR.**
244, Amarillo, TX
- 7—**BOB ORTON, JR.**
245, Kansas City, KS
- 8—**JACK BRISCO**
232, Blackwell, OK
- 9—**DICK SLATER**
235, Tampa, FL
- 10—**CHARLIE BROWN**
251, New York, NY

FLORIDA

- 1—**RON BASS**
285, Pampa, TX
- 2—**JOS LeDUC**
280, Godbout, Quebec
- 3—**DUSTY RHODES**
302, Austin, TX
- 4—**BARRY WINDHAM**
230, Sweetwater, TX
- 5—**MIKE GRAHAM**
232, Tampa, FL
- 6—**ANGELO MOSCA**
309, Caledon, Ontario
- 7—**KEVIN SULLIVAN**
235, Boston, MA
- 8—**THE PURPLE HAZE**
235, Buffalo, NY
- 9—**SCOTT McGHEE**
220, Shipley, England
- 10—**MIKE ROTONDO**
245, Syracuse, NY

MID-SOUTH

- 1—**HACKSAW REED**
249, Kansas City, MO
- 2—**JUNKYARD DOG**
260, New Orleans, LA
- 3—**HACKSAW DUGGAN**
280, New York, NY
- 4—**MIL MASCARAS**
242, Mexico City, Mexico
- 5—**MR. WRESTLING II**
232, Atlanta, GA
- 6—**KING KONG BUNDY**
420, Atlantic City, NJ
- 7—**MR. FUJI**
232, Japan
- 8—**TED DIBIASE**
247, Omaha, NE
- 9—**KAMALA**
360, Uganda
- 10—**TERRY ALLEN**
245, Chesapeake, VA

SOUTHWEST

- 1—**ADRIAN ADONIS**
251, New York, NY
- 2—**TULLY BLANCHARD**
235, San Antonio, TX
- 3—**BOB SWEETAN**
285, Round Rock, TX
- 4—**ERIC EMBRY**
225, Lexington, KY
- 5—**BOBBY JAGGERS**
255, Dunlap, KS
- 6—**SCOTT CASEY**
235, Amarillo, TX
- 7—**TIGER CONWAY, JR.**
230, Houston, TX
- 8—**SWEET BROWN SUGAR**
226, Dallas, TX
- 9—**AL PEREZ**
234, Tampa, FL
- 10—**EDDY MANSFIELD**
230, Beverly Hills, CA

NORTHWEST

- 1—**CURT HENNIG**
235, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—**THE ASSASSIN**
240, parts unknown
- 3—**PLAYBOY BUDDY ROSE**
245, Minneapolis, MN
- 4—**RIP OLIVER**
245, Tampa, FL
- 5—**BILLY JACK**
245, Portland, OR
- 6—**AL MADRIL**
235, Los Angeles, CA
- 7—**RON RITCHIE**
238, New York, NY
- 8—**MATT BORNE**
240, Milwaukie, OR
- 9—**BRIAN ADIDAS**
238, Dallas, TX
- 10—**CHIEF TAPU**
228, Samoa

BACK ISSUES OF INSIDE WRESTLING



INSIDE WRESTLING

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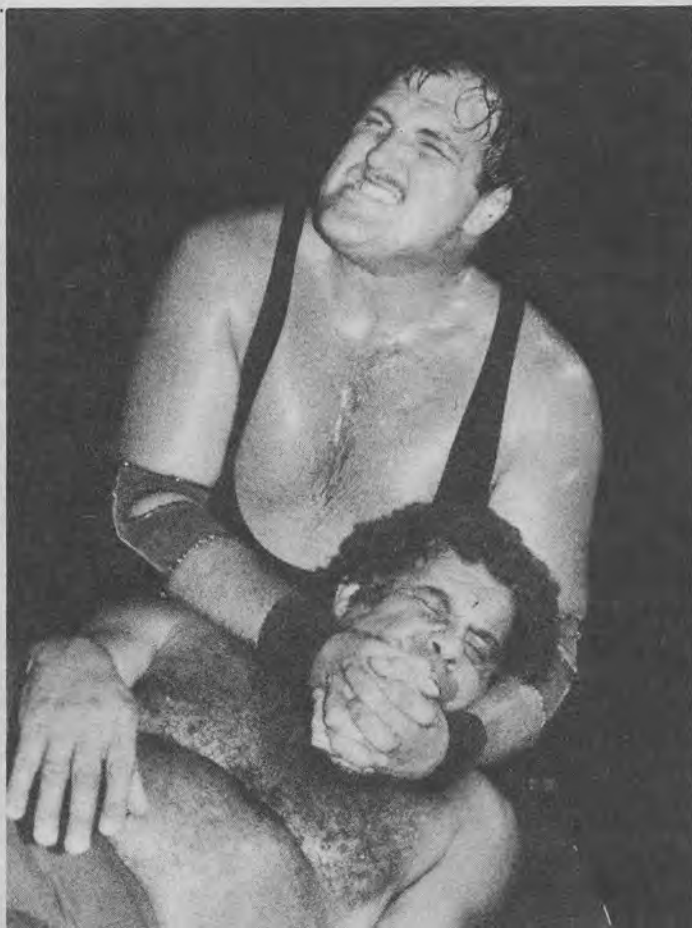
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SGT. SLAUGHTER: "I'LL WHIP ANGELO MOSCA BACK INTO SHAPE!"

When Sgt. Slaughter offers to help someone, you can be sure there's a catch somewhere.

When he offers to help Angelo Mosca, you can be sure he expects Mosca to pay in pain for the privilege. In fact, Slaughter intends to help Mosca even if he destroys Angelo's career in the process!



WATCHING THE TELEVISION interview, Sgt. Slaughter shook his head in disgust. On the show, Angelo Mosca was being interviewed in Florida. Beside Mosca was his son, Angelo Mosca Jr. Every so often as he listened, Slaughter snorted in derision.

"That's Angelo Mosca!" Slaughter said derisively. "I remember when he was a good wrestler. He was Canadian heavyweight champion until I beat him. Imagine, that clown once owned the title I now have. It's a disgrace what happened to him." Suddenly, Slaughter's face twisted into a hideous smile and he added, "I think I'll do something about it."

The next day, Slaughter was making arrangements to go to Toronto where Mosca would soon be wrestling.



Sgt. Slaughter applies a chinlock on Mosca (top) and performs a handstand before driving his knees into Angelo's head (left).

Slaughter couldn't wait for his first television interview after arriving. When the announcer finally put the microphone near him, Slaughter grabbed it. Then he began his tirade.

"The Angelo Mosca that fans have been cheering is a disgrace," Slaughter announced. "Coming on with his son, currying favor with the fans, wrestling people who should be his friends; all of this is a disgrace. Something has to be done. I'm here to do the boy a favor. I'll whip Mosca back into shape! I'll make him a man again. Someone has to beat some sense into the boy!"

"I want to apologize for not do-



Mosca clamps the sleeperhold on Slaughter but cannot prevent the sergeant from working his way to the ropes. Mosca had to release the hold.

ing it earlier. Mosca should have been shown the error of his ways immediately. Well, it's never too late. In a couple of weeks, for his own good, I'll batter Mosca's brain



Mosca knew that he could not expect to beat Slaughter with scientific wrestling. Mosca has not forgotten how to brawl.



Slaughter grabs Mosca by the hair and slams his head against a ringside table.

into functioning again."

Mosca wasn't surprised when he heard the interview. He'd been expecting something like this ever since he became a fan favorite. J.J. Dillon, after all, has a lot of friends.

Dillon used to be Mosca's manager. When Dillon decided to manage Ron Bass exclusively, he dropped Mosca and several others. But he promised Angelo that he would one day take him back. When Mosca became a fan favorite, Dillon became his enemy. When a man of Dillon's immense power and influence has an enemy, it's not difficult for J.J. to find someone to do him a favor, even if it means traveling to Canada. Mosca never had any proof that Slaughter was there at Dillon's bidding, but for some things you don't need proof. You know.

So Mosca prepared himself for Sgt. Slaughter's onslaught. Know-

ing Slaughter, Angelo realized that scientific wrestling would have to be forgotten. This would be a mean, ugly war. A career could end before it was over. Mosca knew what to expect. He didn't look forward to the match, but he didn't run away. It was the price he had to pay for being the man he was. He couldn't run away from that.

The night of the match, one could feel the electricity. In his dressing room, Mosca was all quiet professionalism as he prepared. Slaughter, 50 yards away behind a concrete wall, was raucously strutting about, bragging about how he would savagely beat Mosca into insensibility. His eyes were wild and his knuckles were white as he clenched his fists. It was frightening to watch.

When the two men stepped into the ring, they stared at each other with a deep and furious hatred. They appeared to be two coils of warrior energy ready to spring into action. When the bell sounded, all



Slaughter flings Mosca into the turnbuckles (above) and then follows up his advantage with a sweeping right hand (below). The match was stopped by the referee with both wrestlers battling outside the ring.



hell broke loose.

From the beginning, it was a spectacular exhibition of wrestling fury. Slaughter used every dirty trick in his arsenal, forcing Mosca to respond in kind. They battered each other with a brutality that seemed impossible to endure. At one moment, Slaughter started choking Mosca. As he squeezed his hands around Angelo's windpipe, Slaughter spat, "You'll thank me for this. I'm making you a man!" The next moment, with a brilliant reversal, Mosca snared Slaughter in a headlock. Angelo put his face close to his victim's and grinned wickedly.

As might be expected, the ring proved too small to hold the action. The pair toppled over the ropes and Slaughter took charge. He grabbed Mosca and banged him into the corner ringpost. Then he started bashing Angelo's head against the floor. It seemed this was the moment Slaughter had wanted all along.

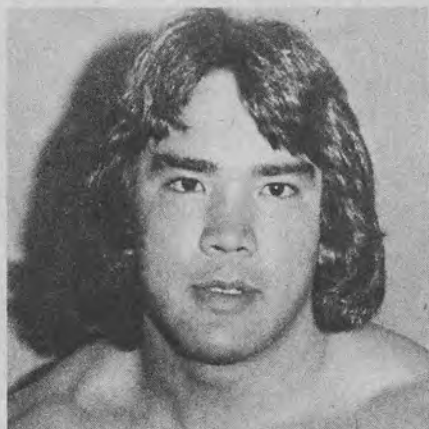
Then, by some miracle, Mosca managed to escape. It happened so quickly, no one could see exactly how it was done. The method didn't matter. Weak from his beating, but driven on by force only professional athletes can command, he started his attack. Slaughter eagerly battled back.

Order was finally restored when the referee disqualified both men and security guards separated them. Slaughter strutted back to his dressing room while Mosca stood and received the cheers from the fans. Angelo wearily but happily raised his hand, justly claiming a victory over the savagery of Sgt. Slaughter.

Later that night, among a few friends, Mosca admitted, "This was the match that scared me most. This was the worst Dillon can throw at me. I haven't heard the last from Slaughter, but that doesn't matter. I know I can survive on my own terms. That's all any man can ask." □

THE GREATEST SUPERSTARS IN WRESTLING

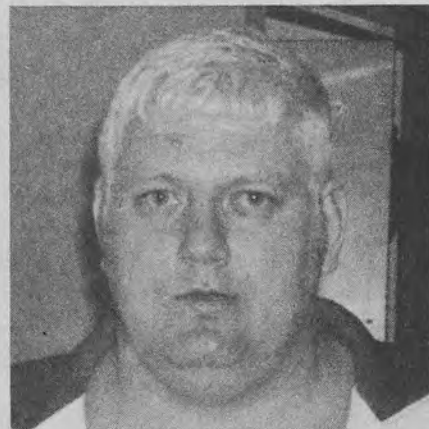
As Selected By The Wrestlers Themselves



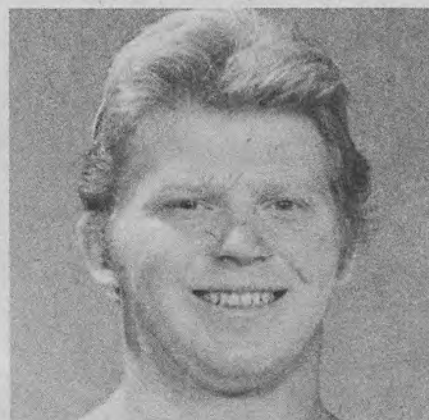
RICK STEAMBOAT



IVAN KOLOFF



DICK MURDOCH



BOB BACKLUND



MR. WRESTLING II



BRUNO SAMMARTINO

RINGSIDE REPORTERS can only offer so much incisive analysis to the complex workings

of professional wrestling. But it takes the wrestlers themselves to add that critical element, to of-

fer the explanation of why a certain style is favorable, and why a
(Continued on page 48)



BRUNO SAMMARTINO

"I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT I CHOSE KEN PATERA"

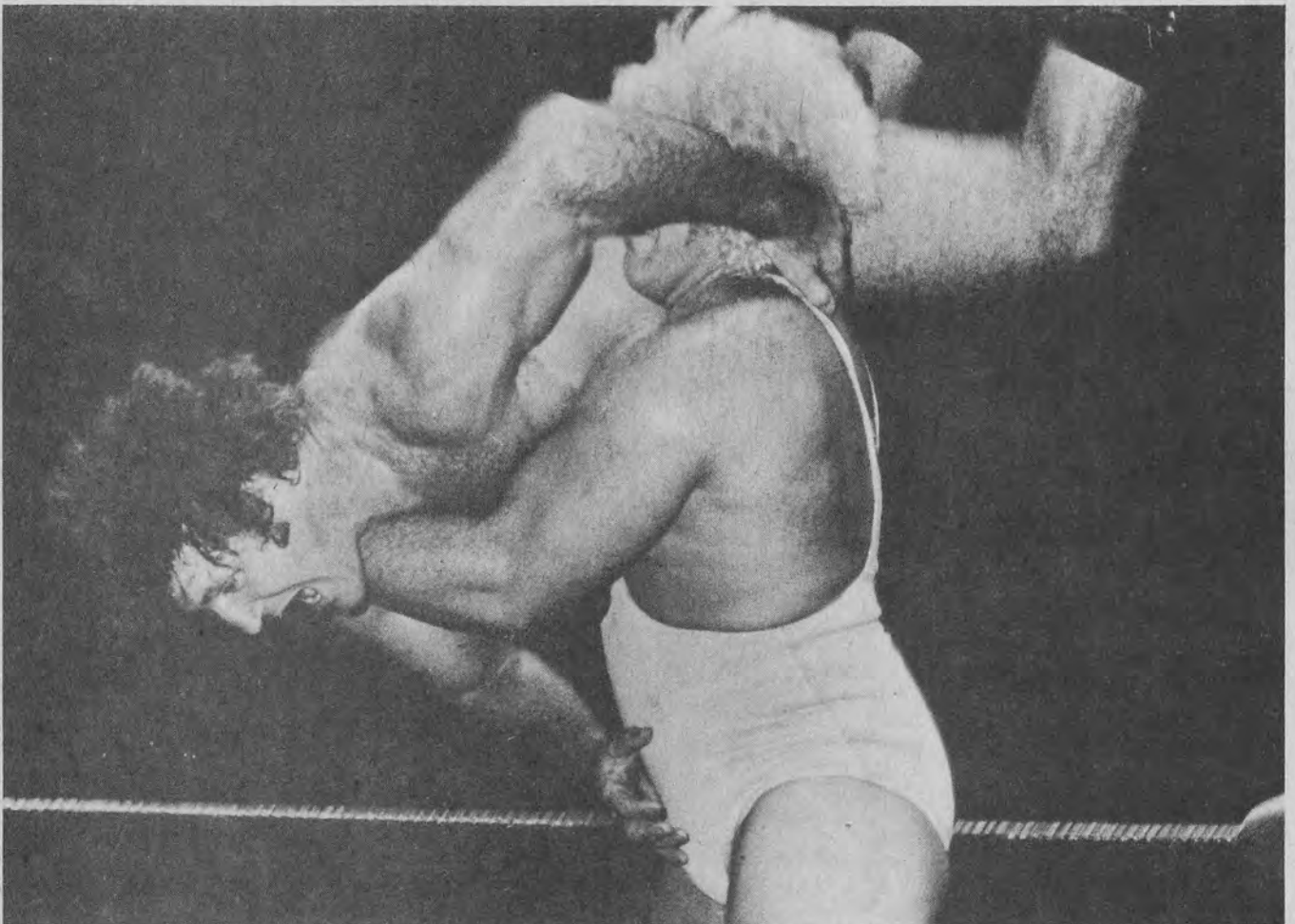
You know, I gave this question some very long and hard thought before answering. There are a heckuva lot of very fine wrestlers around. And then how could I choose? Would I

let personal feelings interfere and rule out men I have had fights with? Shouldn't a man's bad temper influence the way he is regarded and whether he should be considered a superstar?

Doggone, I told myself I had to be as impartial as possible. I hate to say it, but I chose Ken Patera.

Yes, I know Ken Patera can be a mean man. But he is a very

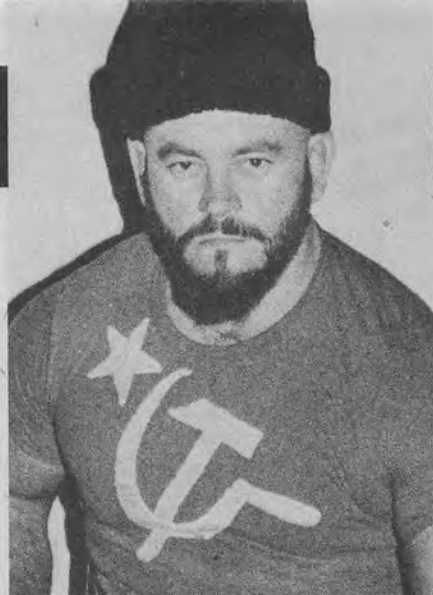
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Ken Patera slams Bruno Sammartino to the mat. "I know Ken Patera can be a very mean man," Sammartino says. "But he is a very great wrestler. He has immense strength... Take it from me, I speak from experience."

IVAN KOLOFF

"MIL MASCARAS IS A GREAT WRESTLER, LIKE ME"

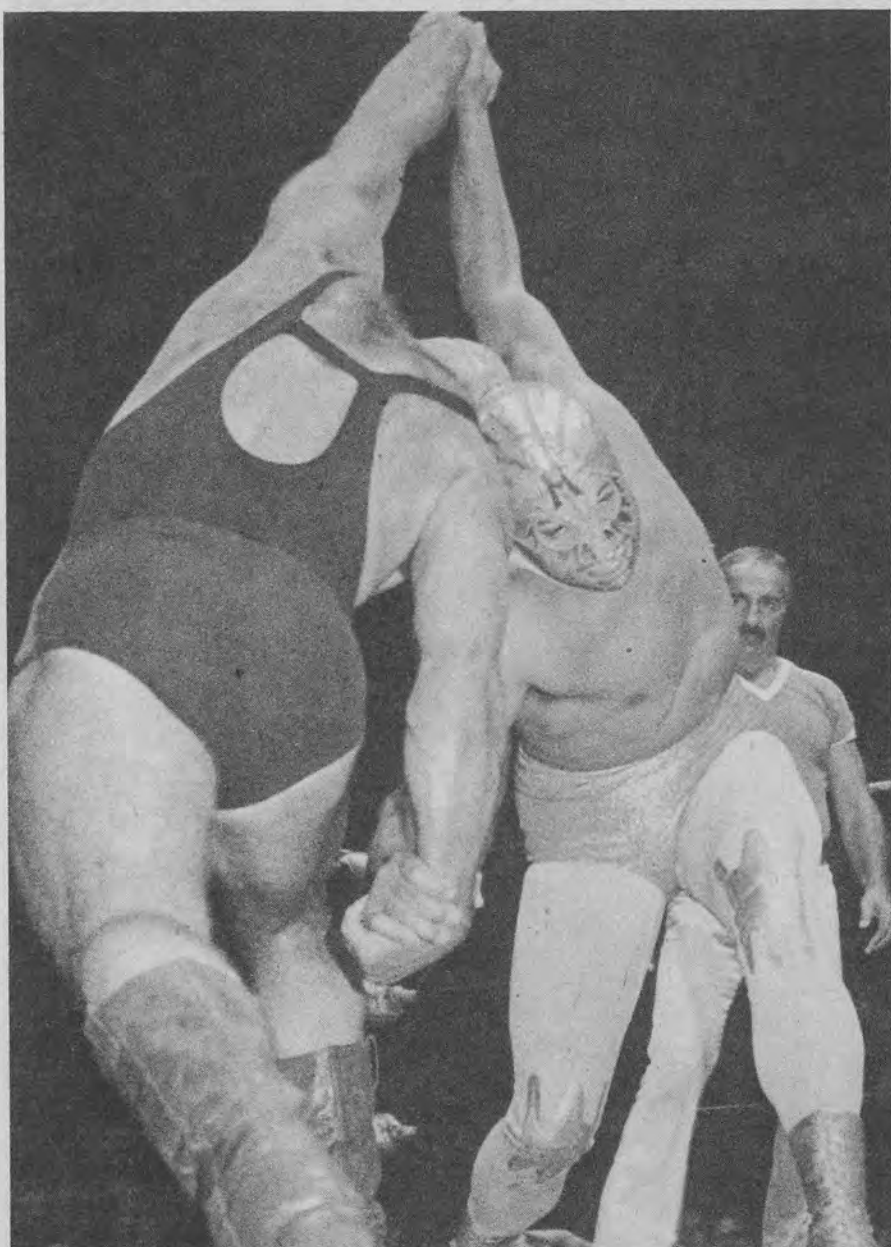


In the Soviet Union, our people's government erected a special school designed to train professional wrestlers. Many from all over the decadent capitalist world clamor for admittance into this program. Of course, our people's government shows no preference to the free-minded workers of the greater Soviet world. All are judged based purely on skill and intelligence. However, that does give Russian-born wrestlers a sizable advantage since we are vastly superior people.

Among the creatures who tried to gain acceptance to the Lenin School of Soviet Wrestling were Buggy McGraw, Kevin Von Erich, and Dusty Rhodes. For different reasons, these inferior beasts were refused and immediately shipped back to their enslaved land. But one man did train at this school. In fact, we were roommates. That man is Mil Mascaras.

He learned everything at the school. All the maneuvers you see him display were learned at the school. I

(Continued on page 49)

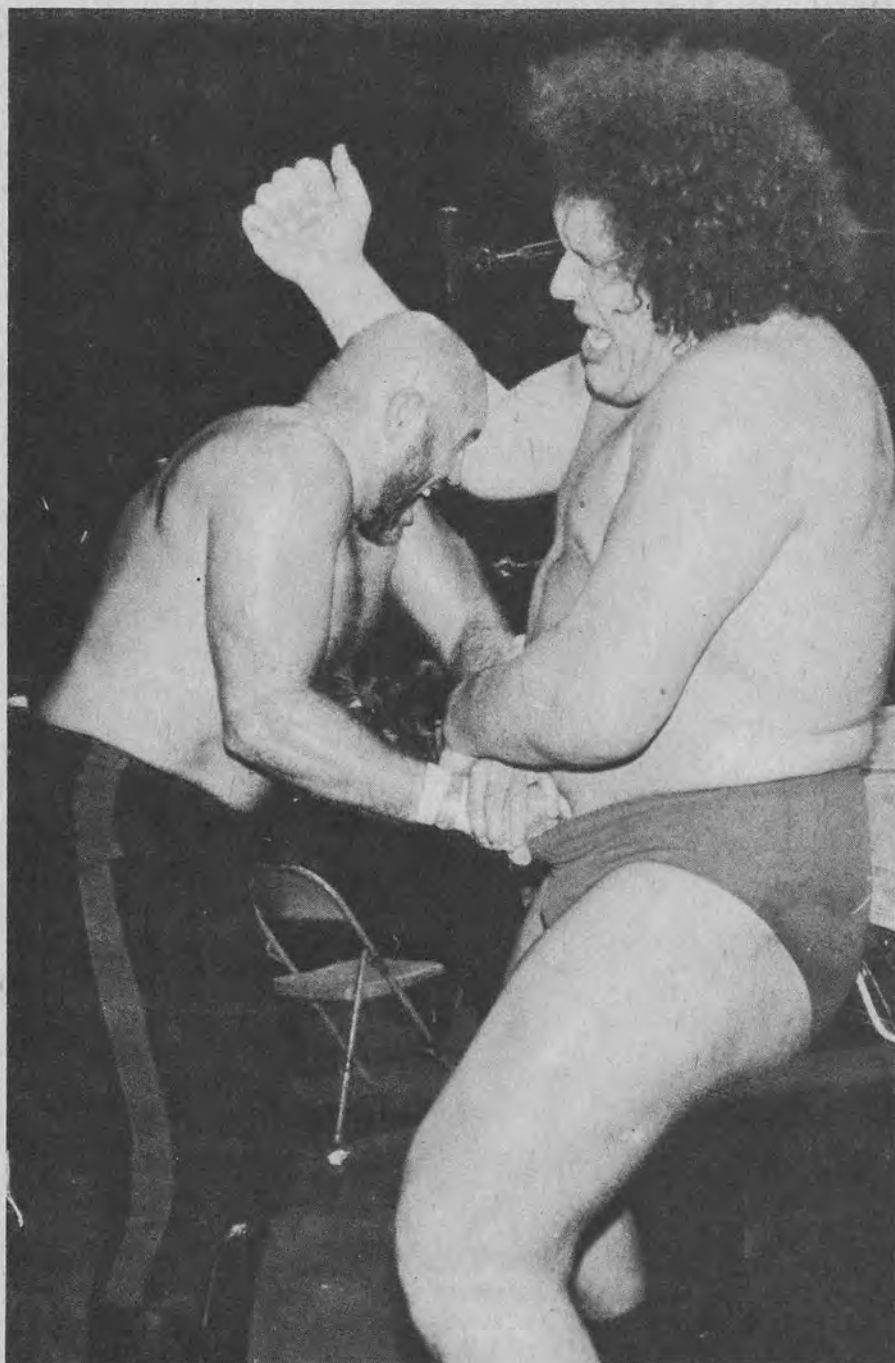


Mil Mascaras and Ivan Koloff engage in a test of strength. "Mascaras' aerial maneuvers were straight from the textbook," says Koloff. "I take great pride in declaring a fellow Soviet wrestler, Mil Mascaras, a superstar."



BOB BACKLUND

**"THANK GOD I
DON'T HAVE TO
WRESTLE ANDRE
THE GIANT"**



Andre the Giant slugs Killer Krupp (left) and poses with his buddy, Bob Backlund (above). "No one can stack up to Andre in any category," Backlund says.

Gosh, there are so many super wrestlers it's just hard to say which one is the top superstar. I've been following wrestling closely, both in a professional capacity and as a fan, for a long, long time. I thought long and hard about this question and tried to decide on the basis of who I wouldn't want to wrestle.

All I can say is thank God I don't have to wrestle Andre the Giant.

(Continued on page 50)

DICK MURDOCH

**"THERE AIN'T A
MAN TOUGHER
THAN MY
PARTNER
DUSTY RHODES"**



Dusty Rhodes brings Superstar Graham to his knees with a figure-four armlock. "I ain't never seen Dusty Rhodes run from a fight," says Murdoch. "He's got a whole lot of guts."

Hell, yeah, I know who the top superstar is. Man, I teamed with the dude back in the old days. There ain't a man tougher than my partner Dusty Rhodes.

I know what tough is 'cause me and Dusty coined the word. Back when we was terrorizin' the world, The Outlaws were the only tag team capable of lastin' through a man-sized brawl without whinin' and cryin' like the whole bunch of other bums they got around.

And Dusty always stood out on the point of trouble. What good is talkin' about superstars and mentionin' lames and cowards who won't know how to take a punch or deliver the blows needed for victory.

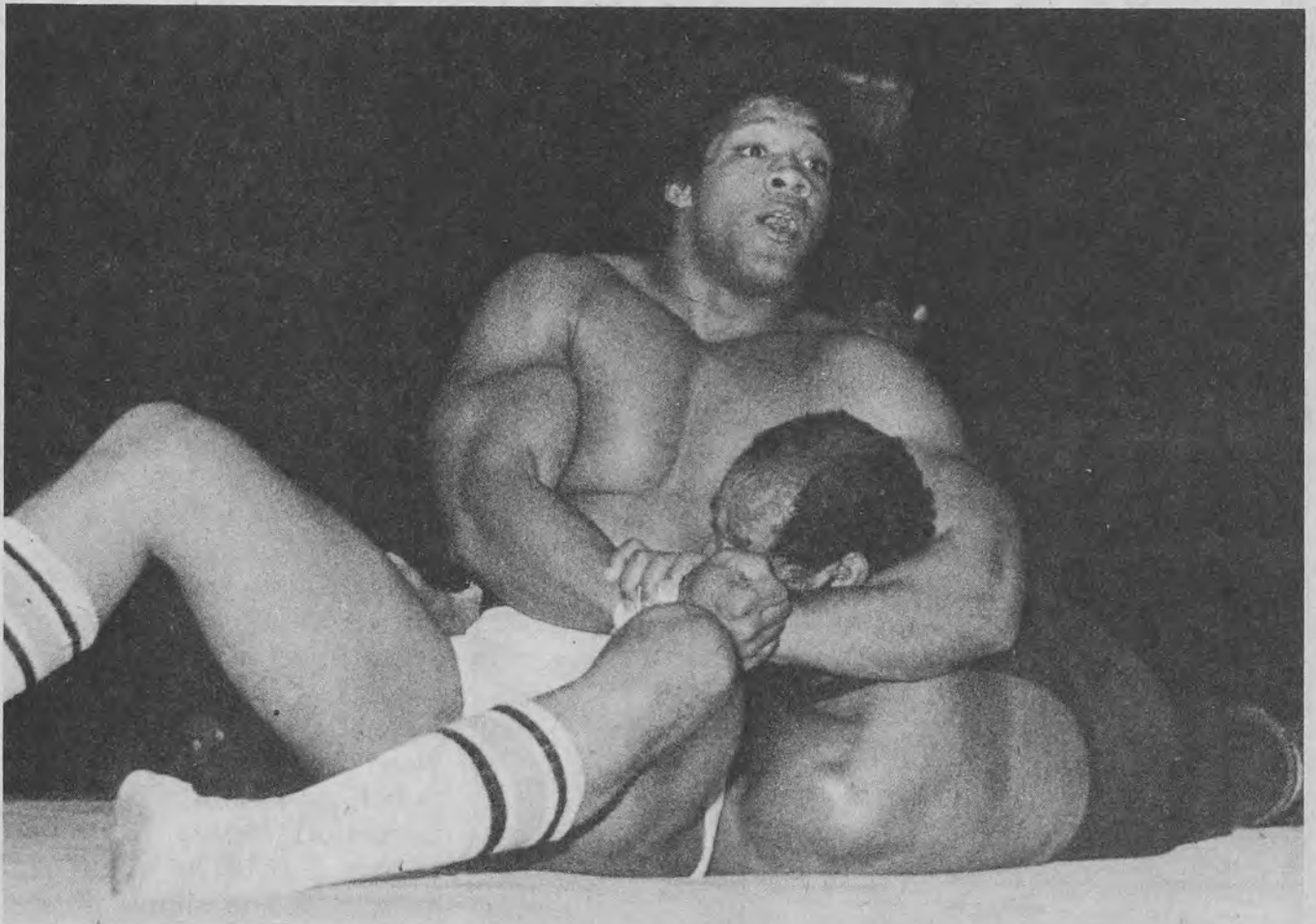
What I'm talkin' about is guts, pure and simple guts. I'm real tired of listenin' to big-mouthed bozos mouthin' off about how they'll do this and that. When the time comes for action, they put their tails between their legs and run away.

I ain't never seen Dusty Rhodes run from a fight. He's got a whole lot of guts. He

(Continued on page 50)

MR. WRESTLING II

**"TONY ATLAS'
ABILITY
IS
SUPERHUMAN"**



Tony Atlas clamps his muscular biceps around Cyclone Negro's head. "No one in wrestling can compare with Tony's strength," says Mr. Wrestling II. "He has the best body for wrestling I have ever seen."

I was privileged to watch a fine young man develop in my own area of Georgia. Witnessing Tony Atlas' rapid improvement and ascent up the wrestling ladder greatly heartened me. But seeing how far Atlas has come

doesn't surprise me in the least. Far as I can see, Tony Atlas' ability is superhuman.

No one in wrestling, and I mean no one, can compare with Tony's strength. It is simply overwhelming. He has the best body for

wrestling I have ever seen.

Tony is really smart. He listens very well and absorbs instruction, yet won't accept advice without question. Tony's greatest asset is his capacity to mold advice and

(Continued on page 51)



TERRY TAYLOR

"BOB BACKLUND IS THE BEST I'VE EVER SEEN"

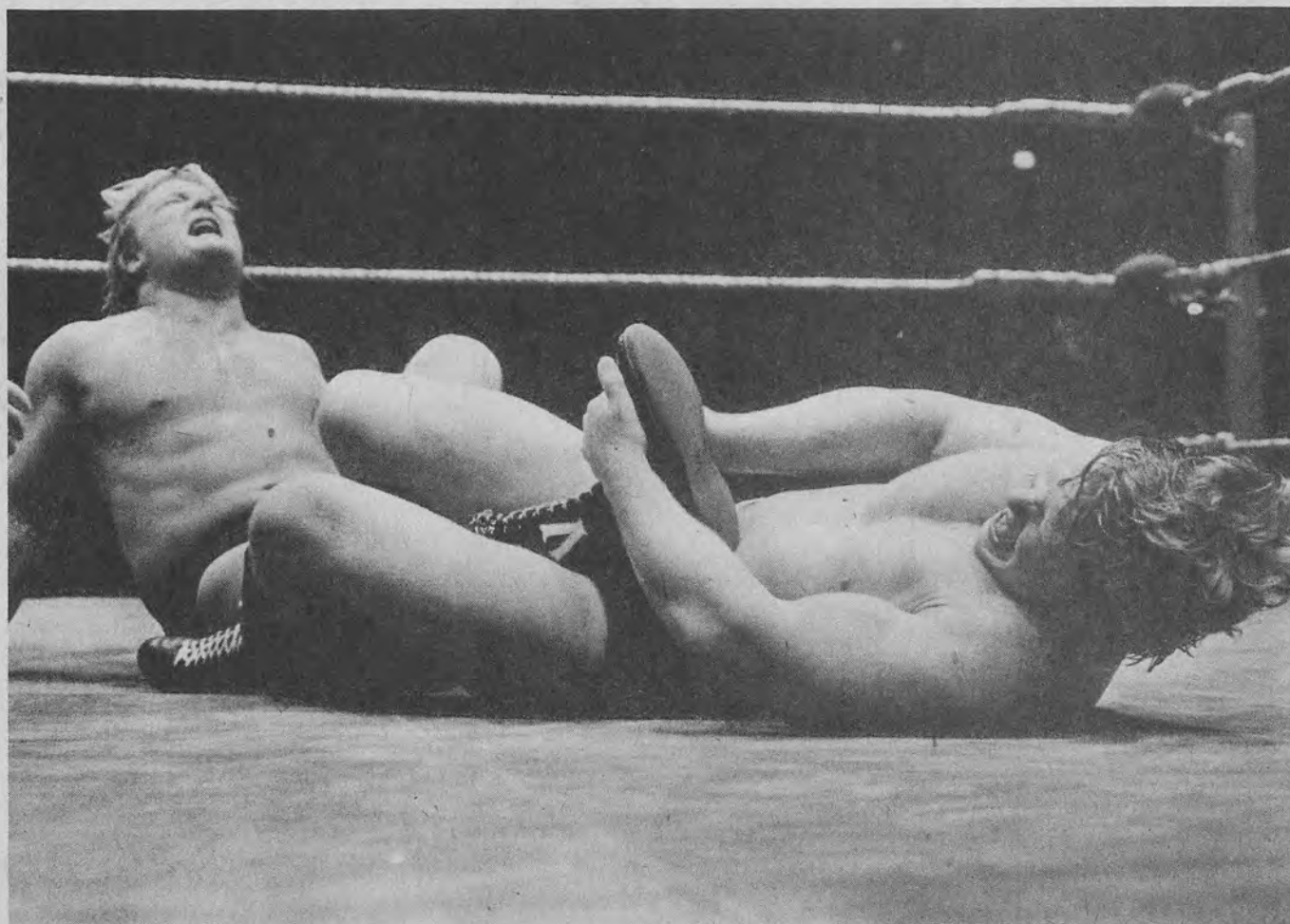
Bob Backlund is the best I've ever seen. I can't see anything he doesn't do right. Most of all, he is a champion. If the dictionary had to use one guy to define the word champion, it would be Bob Backlund. His quiet dignity is

wonderful, really. And his personality is just great.

Some older wrestlers won't give you the time of day. Maybe they're jealous of a younger guy or even afraid he'll replace them someday. Not Bob. He'll go over

maneuvers for as long as you want. He'll always answer questions and always work out with you. On one of the few occasions I've met him, he actually took time away from his own work to help me

(Continued on page 52)



Bob Backlund traps Greg Valentine in a figure-four leglock. "He is just one of the people," says Terry Taylor, "a good guy who worked hard and drove his natural skills toward a dream."



LOU THESZ

"HARLEY RACE IS A PROVEN CHAMPION"

Too many people get caught up in what makes a champion. These people, none of whom have ever taken a blow to the face or a kick to the chest. A lot of people only talk about style, like it really matters how you look in the ring.

I'd be the first to admit Harley Race isn't the most graceful of wrestlers. But you have to explore his game with an analytical, professional eye to fully appreciate his marvelous abilities.

Right off the bat, Harley Race is a man of immense

courage. I have never heard him shy away from an opponent. He's willing to accord any wrestler, even if they don't deserve it, a shot at his NWA belt.

But what first alerted me to Race's greatness was his

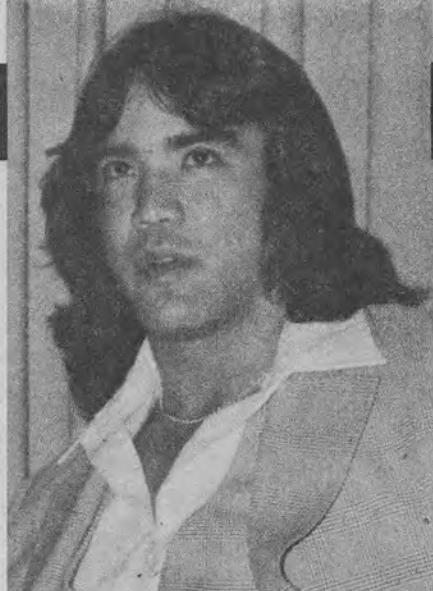
(Continued on page 52)



Harley Race applies a headlock on Dusty Rhodes. "Harley Race is a man of immense courage," says Lou Thesz. "I have never heard him shy away from an opponent. He's willing to accord any wrestler . . . a shot at his NWA belt."

RICK STEAMBOAT

**"RIC FLAIR HAS
THE MOST
POTENTIAL OF
ANY WRESTLER
ALIVE"**



Ric Flair has his hand raised in victory by Rick Steamboat. "I don't think Ric has fully tapped his vast talents yet," Steamboat says. "For a guy that big, his speed is dazzling."

A lot of people are going to misinterpret what I'm about to say. Long as I know the most important person won't, I feel free to speak my mind about the most potentially brilliant wrestler in the world, Ric Flair.

I must say potentially because I don't think Ric has

fully tapped his vast talents yet. He has enormous natural ability. For a guy that big, his speed is dazzling. Besides, Ric knows how to use that quickness. He doesn't tire himself out by running around the ring needlessly. He knows how to conserve his strength, which is a really

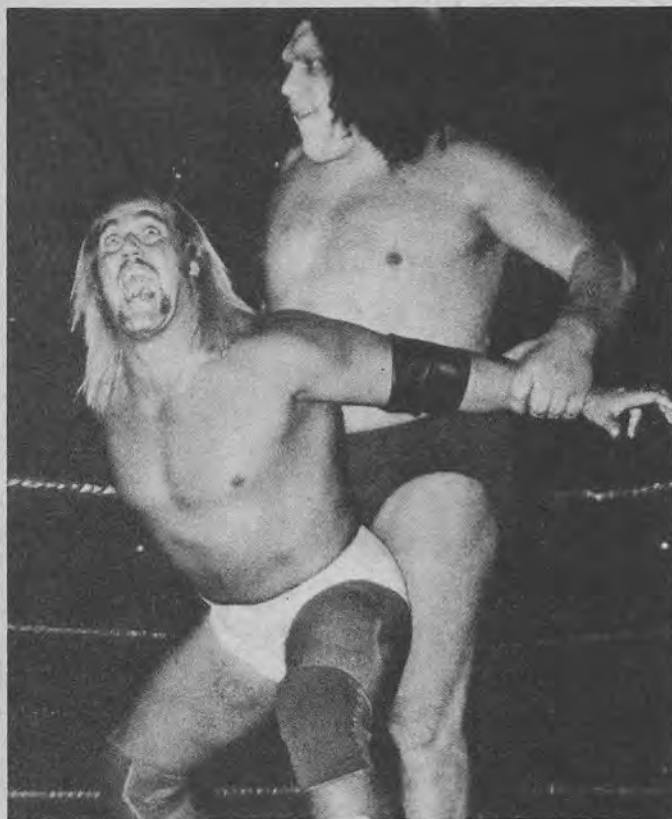
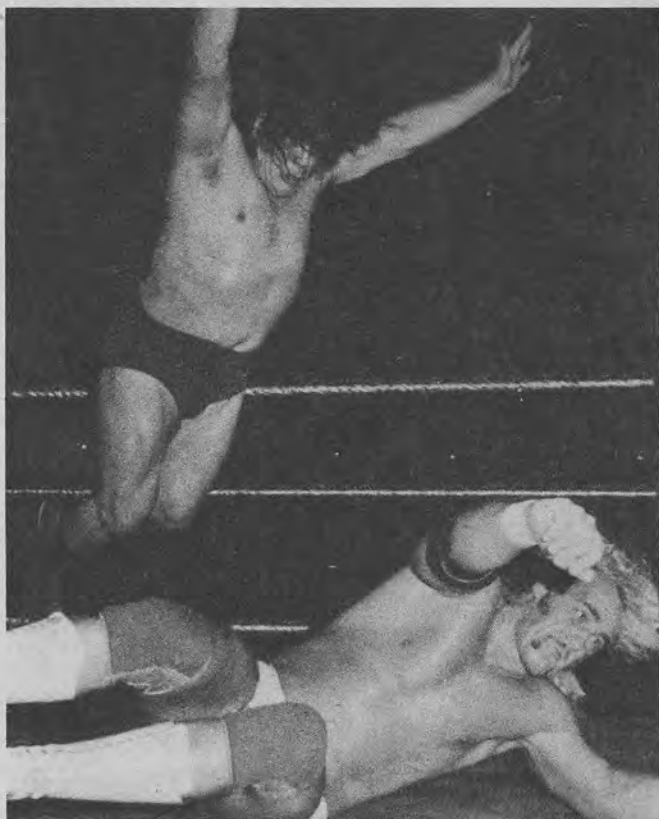
important factor in any wrestling match.

Ric is very strong. He can snap your head back if he wants to. He can crush your limbs together if he wants. But Ric's problem, at this point in his career, is he doesn't control all his talents.

(Continued on page 53)

**Andre the Giant
vs. Hulk Hogan**





WAR OF THE SUPER TITANS

ANDRE GLANCED UP at the semi-circle of friends anxiously watching his grim mood.

"So what do I do?" asked Andre.

Bruno Sammartino and Bob Backlund exchanged worried expressions. Like everyone else in wrestling, they'd never heard Andre ask for advice in such a worried tone.

Maybe Andre's apprehension was justified. After all, he was

about to meet an awesome physical specimen. This foe had been sharpened through the sinister machinery of manager Fred Blassie, a man devoted to the ruthless precepts of treachery and cruelty.

Certain advantages Andre takes for granted would be negated, if not obliterated by Hulk Hogan's imposing physical attributes. Subtle points often unnoticed by the

general public, like leverage and assured victory in sheer strength tests, would not be readily available to the Giant.

"You know, Andre, I have watched that Hogan many, many times," began Bruno. "Doggone, he is one tough cookie. But I think you can beat him."

"I think you must use your size to your complete advantage," Bruno said as

(Continued on page 64)

Both are immense, overpowering physical specimens. Their mere presence strikes terror into opponents. Often Andre the Giant or Hulk Hogan is accused of bullying his small opponent. In this sensational battle between these monstrous men, size didn't matter. Only raw courage

WHY ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER WILL NEVER RECEIVE A WORLD TITLE SHOT

**Worldwide
Conspiracy
Revealed**

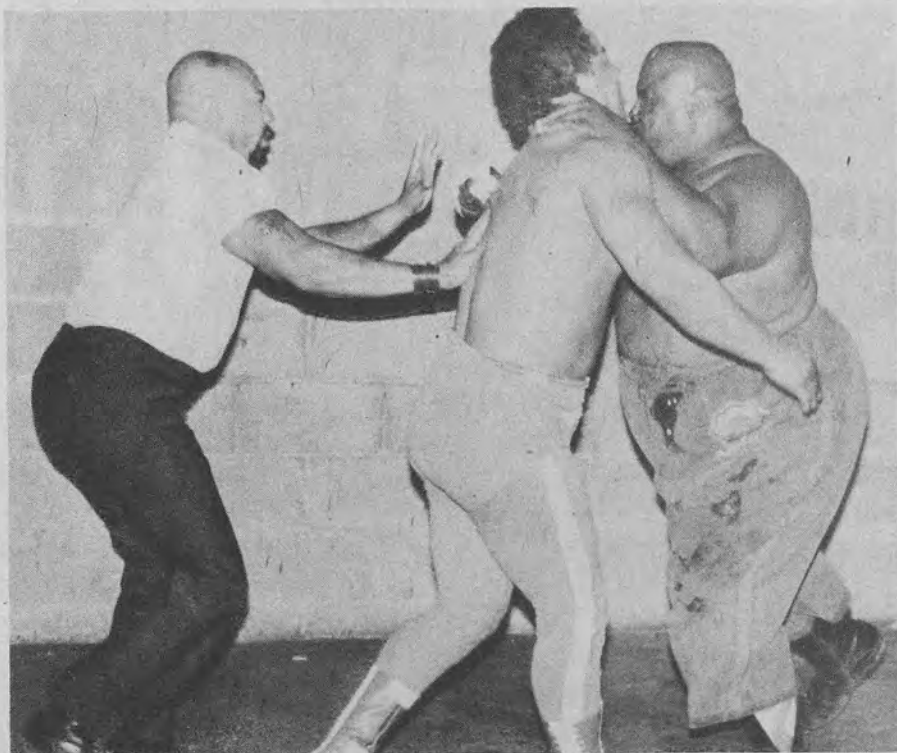
Long one of the most feared men in wrestling, Abdullah the Butcher has earned the hatred and respect of everyone he wrestles. But those who fear him most are not the men he savages in the ring. To find out who are most scared of Abdullah, read the story they begged us not to print

IT IS NOT written on any piece of paper or stored in any computer. If asked, almost every official in wrestling will deny it. Some will react so angrily at the suggestion that they'll end the interview immediately. When asked for an explanation, only one official is willing to talk for the record. And he demands anonymity.

"It had to come out sooner or later," he acknowledges, "and I think it should come out. I haven't always done the best thing for wrestling, nobody's perfect, but this is the only decision that keeps me up at night. We were silly to think we could keep it secret forever.



Abdullah has battled Harley Race (below), but not while Race was NWA champion. The maniacal Butcher will have to be disqualified for his ceaseless assault on Mr. Wrestling II (right). How would it look for the sport of wrestling if Abdullah were champion?

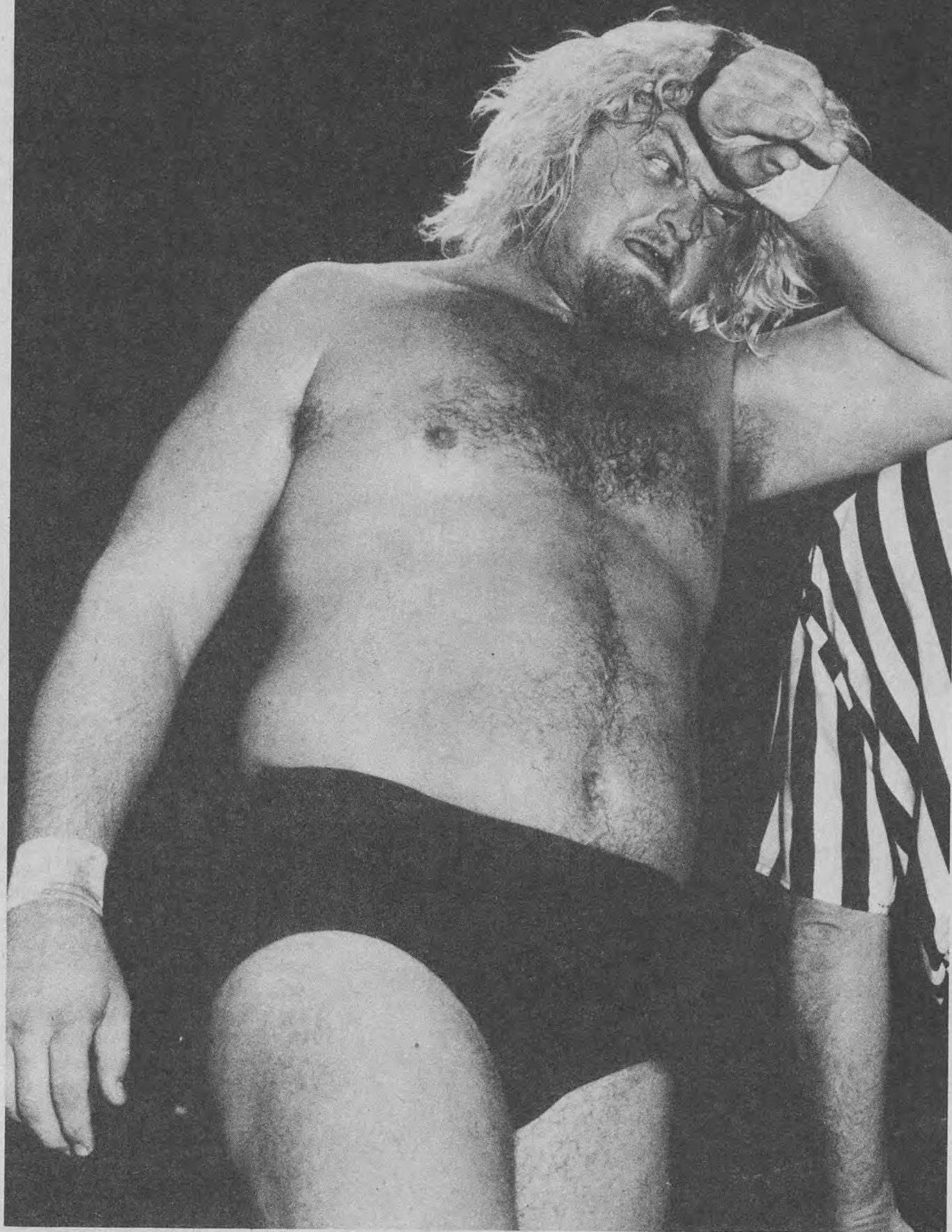


Abdullah's violence is often not restricted to the wrestling ring. An official tries to break up a scuffle between the Butcher and The Invader in the corridor of a Puerto Rico dressing room.

"Of course Abdullah the Butcher is on a blacklist. There isn't an official in the entire world who will hire him for a major title match. I mean, we have 100 per cent agreement on this. The wrestlers don't know about it, at least not officially, but I've never known a champion to insist on giving Abdullah a title shot. I've heard that a few suggested it, feeling the guy earned the right, but they didn't push when the answer was no.

"The decision was made about 10 years ago," the official continues.
(Continued on page 56)

Duncum wipes the blood from his forehead moments into his match with Inoki.



IS PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING TRYING TO DESTROY BOB DUNCUM?

BOB DUNCUM GRIMACED as the doctor put yet another stitch in his forehead. That made eight.

"I would say six or seven days," the doctor said, "and this time I mean it, Bob. Your body needs time to heal itself, and you've got a responsibility to your body to provide that time. Geez, Mulligan really did a job this time."

There was a knock on the door. "Who's there?" the doctor asked.

"Is Mr. Duncum there," a high-pitched voice asked.

"Yes he is," replied the doctor, "but he can't see anybody now."

"I'm supposed to deliver this telegram," the voice insisted.

"Okay, kid," Duncum said, "deliver."

A skinny 17-year-old walked tentatively into the room. Duncum extended his arm, but

the kid was shaking too much to make the handoff. He dropped the telegram on the table and scurried out of the room.

Duncum shrugged, and then read the message to himself.

"What's up," the doctor asked. "Nobody's sick or anything, right?"

At first, Duncum didn't answer. He only stared at the telegram. Then he responded. "Uh, no, no, nothing's wrong. Hey, doc, are you about done with me?"

"Yes," the doctor said. "Just remember, no wrestling for about a week."

"Sure, doc," Duncum said. "See ya in a week."

The doctor left the room completely unnoticed by Duncum. The big Texan slowly got out of his chair and eased over to a mirror to examine the patchwork on his forehead. "A

week," he grumbled. "Ha."

Duncum knew he was in a bad situation. There would be no recuperation time for his injuries to mend. In fact, the same night he got cut up by Blackjack Mulligan in Greensboro, North Carolina, he would have to catch a plane to New York to wrestle no less an opponent than World Martial Arts Champion Antonio Inoki in Madison Square Garden the next day.

The two-hour flight gave Duncum a lot of time to think about his problems. Maybe too much.

For some time he has grumbled about professional wrestling trying to destroy him. But no one knew just what he was talking about. Not even him. But he is beginning to.

How could he be expected to wrestle in such poor condition?

(Continued on page 54)

Is Bobby Duncum the target of yet another sinister plot? Why would Duncum be signaled for destruction? Who wants Duncum ruined? And why? Fortunately Duncum survived. Now he goes about searching for those who wanted him dead

IT IS NO wonder that Larry Zbyszko has been nicknamed "The Enigma" by members of the wrestling press corps. Zbyszko is a very complex personality who doesn't care to let anyone—the fans, the press, or the promoters—know too much about him.

While he is secretive about his personal motivation and goals, the story of how he got his start in professional wrestling is well known. Zbyszko grew up two miles away from his boyhood idol Bruno Sammartino in Pittsburgh. Every day for several years, the young Zbyszko would go to the gym where Bruno conducted his workouts, seeking advice from the then-WWF champion.

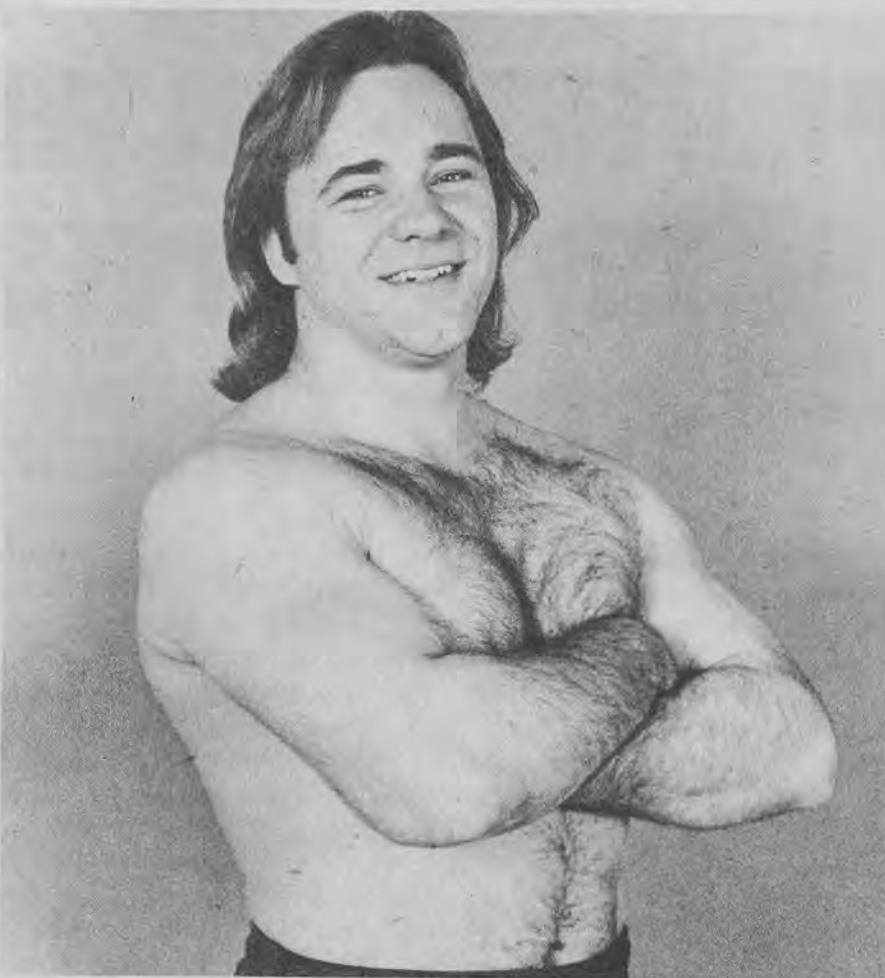
Zbyszko was often a guest at the Sammartino household and established a father-son relationship with the man many people consider the greatest wrestler in the history of the sport. So when Zbyszko told Sammartino that he wanted to make a career of wrestling, Bruno, knowing how difficult it is to make it in the grueling sport, reluctantly agreed to train him. "As long as he was determined to be a wrestler," Bruno said, "I figured he might as well be prepared."

Before long, Zbyszko's success allowed him to shed the label of Bruno's protege. Along with Tony Garea, Larry won the WWF tag team championship from The Yukon Lumberjacks in November 1978. Three and a half months later, however, they lost the belts to Johnny and Jerry Valiant. Just about then, a big change began to take place in Larry's attitude.

After touring Japan, Zbyszko returned to the WWF and challenged Bruno Sammartino to a match. Bruno did not want to wrestle Zbyszko at first but finally gave in to Larry's wishes. Their nationally televised match ignited the most bitter feud in WWF history. What started as a brilliant display of scientific wrestling ended in bloody horror

LARRY ZBYSZKO

• A LOOK BACK •

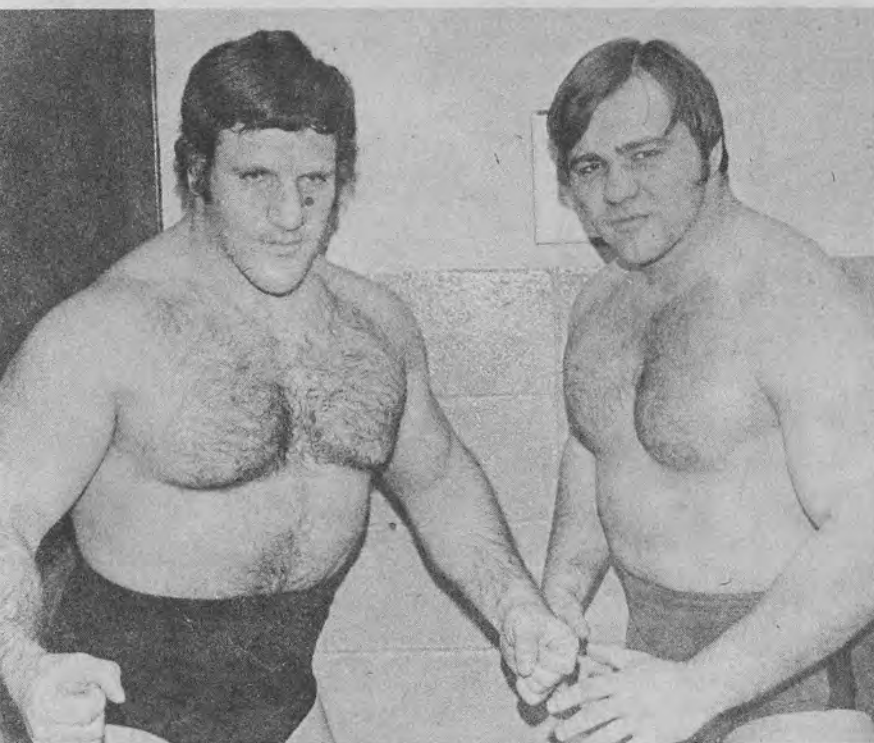


when Zbyszko smashed a chair over his mentor's head, leaving him unconscious in a puddle of blood on the mat.

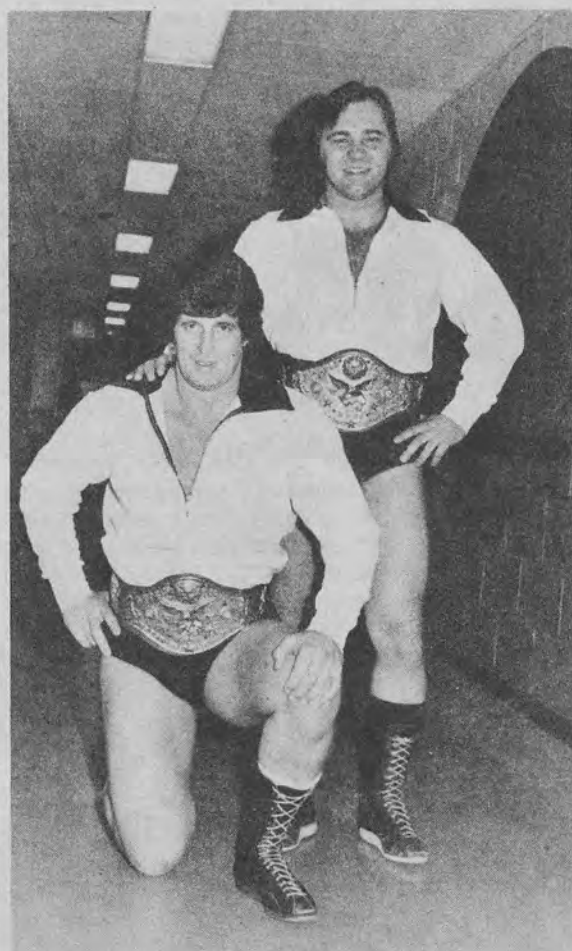
The feud reached its climax when Zbyszko (who had begun calling himself the "New Living Legend") met Sammartino in a Cage Match at New York's Shea Stadium. Sammartino won the match and retired shortly after. Zbyszko's claim that he was responsible for Sammartino's retirement deeply upset Bruno Sammartino Jr., who was preparing to make his pro debut. The fact that they had grown up as close as brothers would mean little as the horrible Zbyszko-Sammartino feud continued.

Zbyszko continues to stun the wrestling community. He sent shockwaves across the nation when he purchased the National heavyweight championship from Killer Brooks for \$25,000, a sale that was voided by the NWA. Zbyszko won the title legitimately in an elimination tournament and has struggled for control of the championship for the past few months with the popular Mr. Wrestling II.

This exclusive *Sports Review Wrestling Annual* photo feature chronicles the history of a man whose career started so calmly but has become one of the most controversial and interesting personalities in all of wrestling.



Zbyszko learned his craft from a true master of the sport, "Living Legend" Bruno Sammartino (left). Zbyszko prepares to land a forearm against one of the Masked Executioners (above).

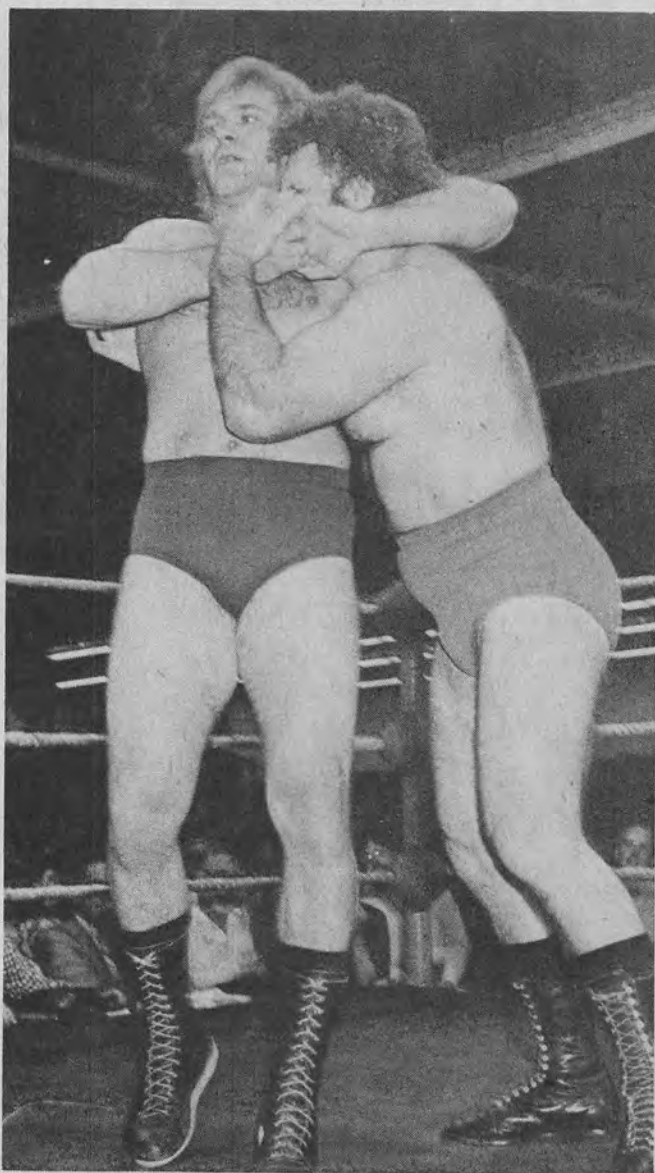


Larry was content when he held the WWF tag team title with Tony Garea (above). But Zbyszko's inner resentment to his mentor, Bruno Sammartino, was shown to the world when he viciously attacked the former two-time WWF champion (above right). After attacking Bruno, Zbyszko was happy to be seen in the company of managers Albano, Grand Wizard, and Blassie (right).

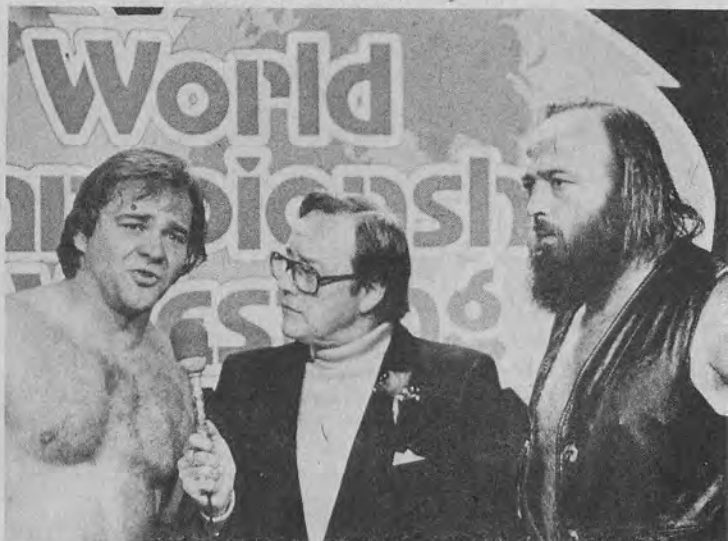


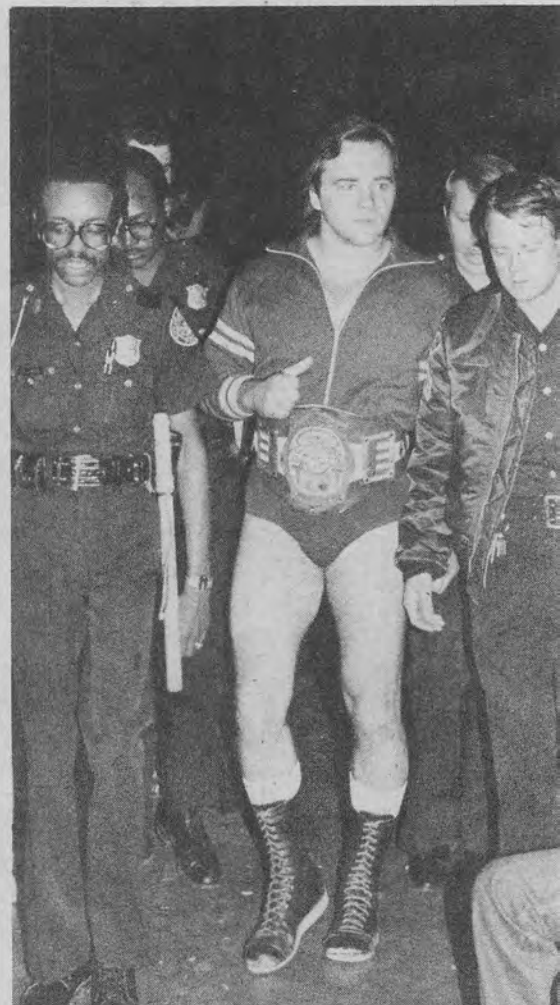
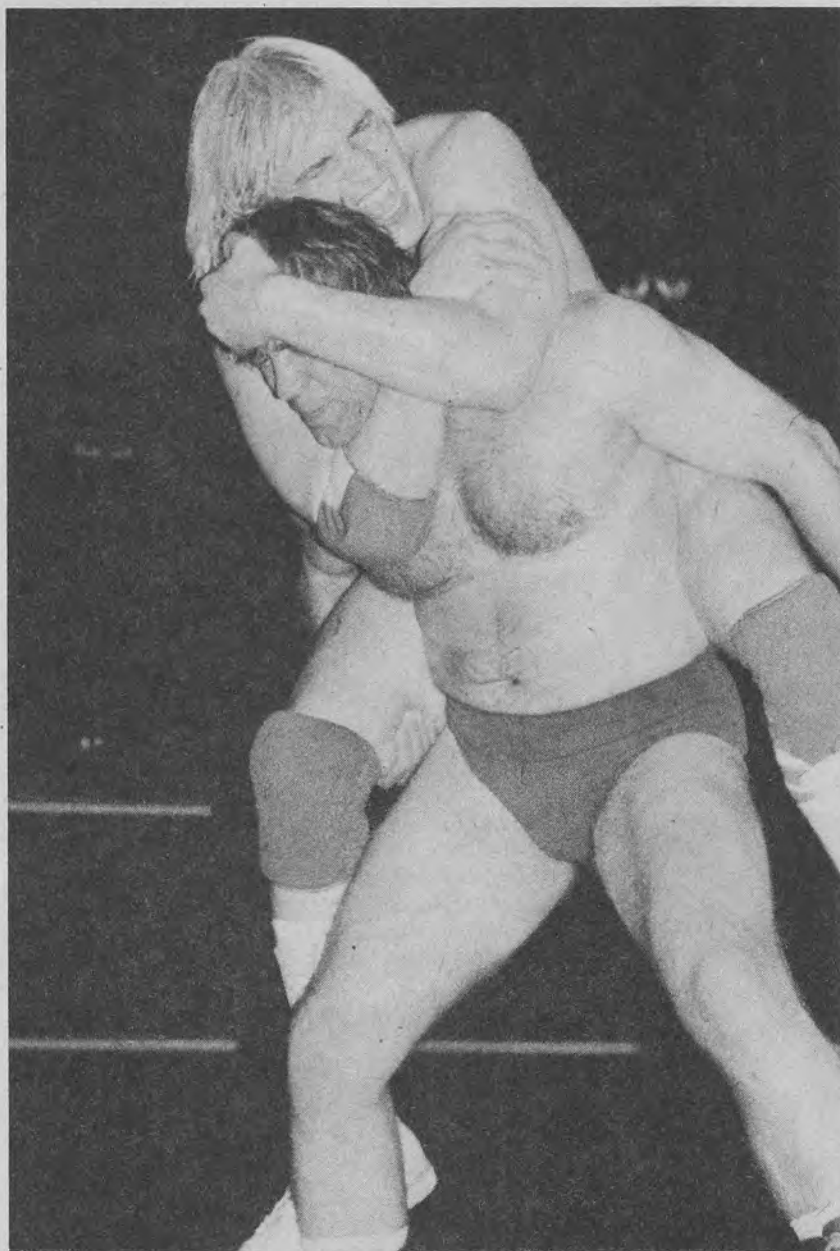


Sammartino and Zbyszko took their feud into a 15-foot high steel cage (left) in Shea Stadium. The gate receipts for the match set a North American record. Zbyszko's new philosophy gets him a shot at Bob Backlund's WWF belt (above).



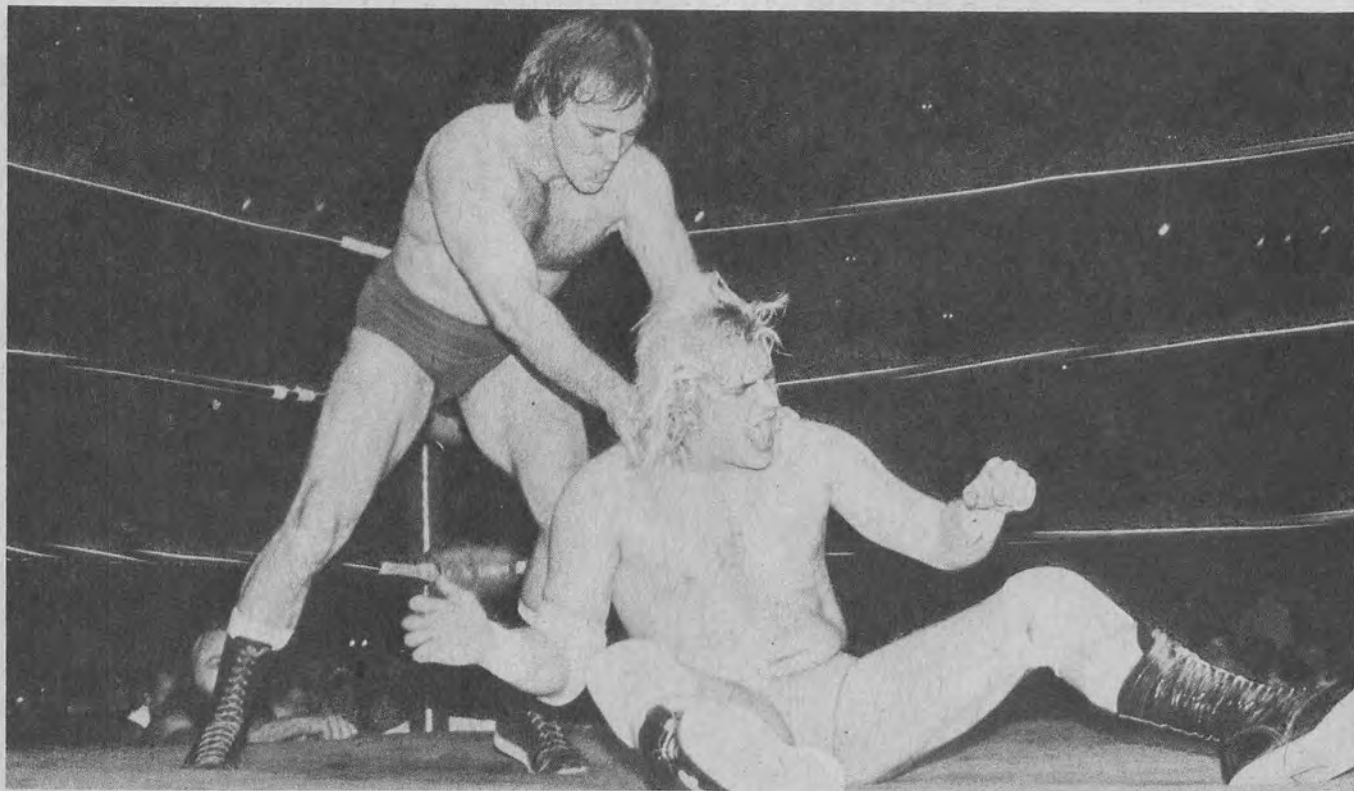
Zbyszko seems stunned by the volume of hatred he hears from the crowd when he wrestles Sammartino (left). Larry traveled to Detroit to wrestle Bobo Brazil (above). "Bobo is Bruno's friend, so he must suffer," Zbyszko told the press. In Georgia, Zbyszko causes much controversy when he tells Gordon Solie that he has bought the National title from Killer Brooks (below).



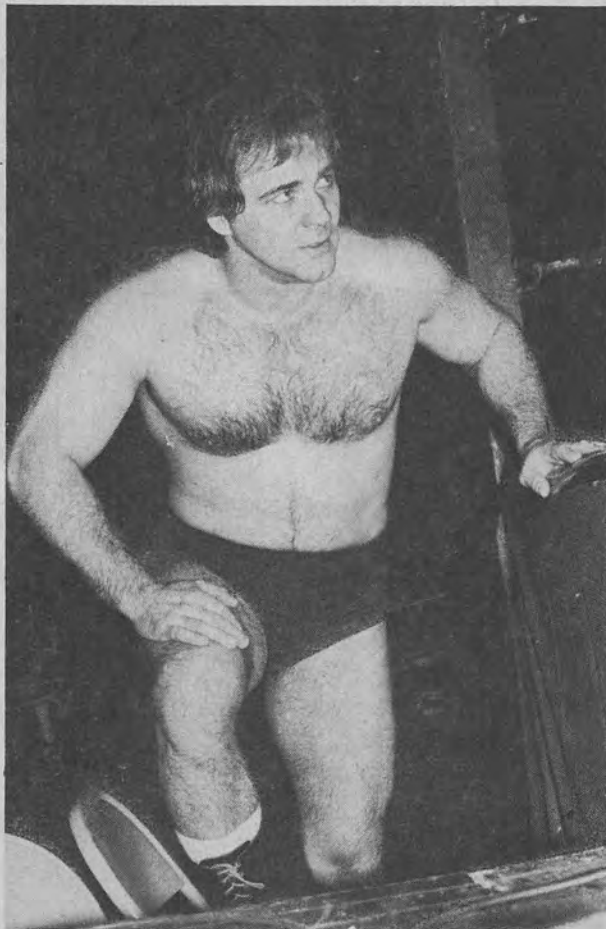
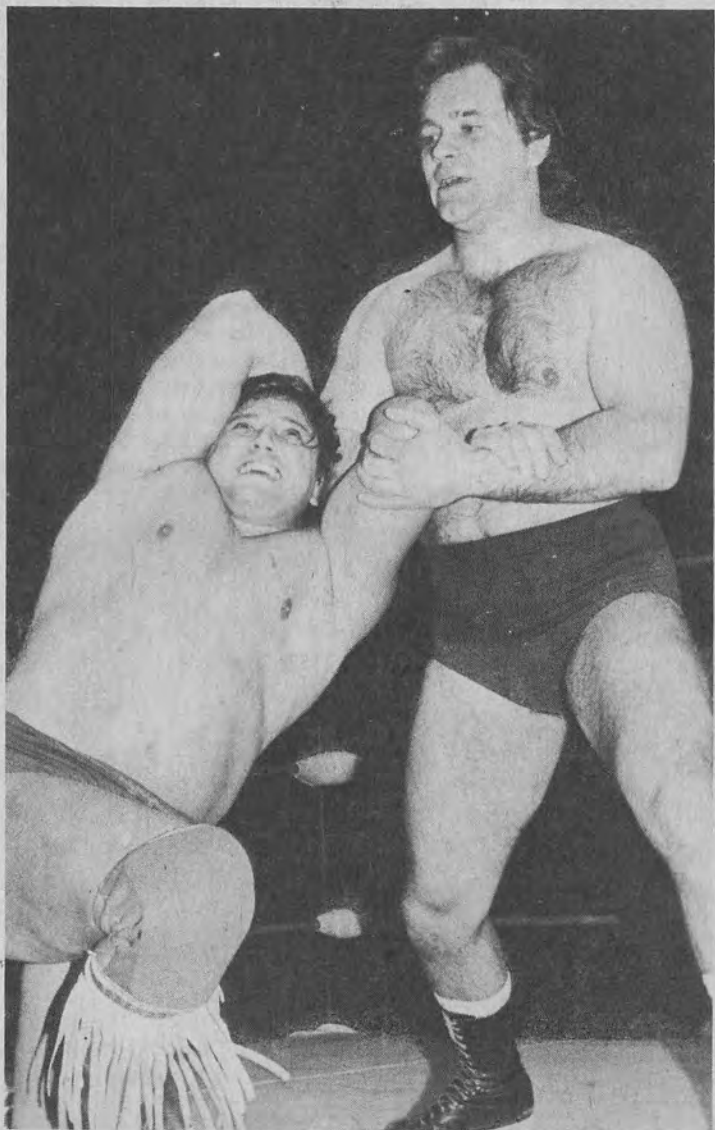


A team of security police escort Zbyszko into the ring (above). Zbyszko is the most hated National champion ever. While defending the National belt, Zbyszko was lucky to escape with his title in this match against Tommy Rich (left). After being stripped of the title by the NWA, Zbyszko regains the title by defeating Mr. Wrestling II in the finals of an NWA-ordered tournament (below). Larry needed brass knuckles to beat II.

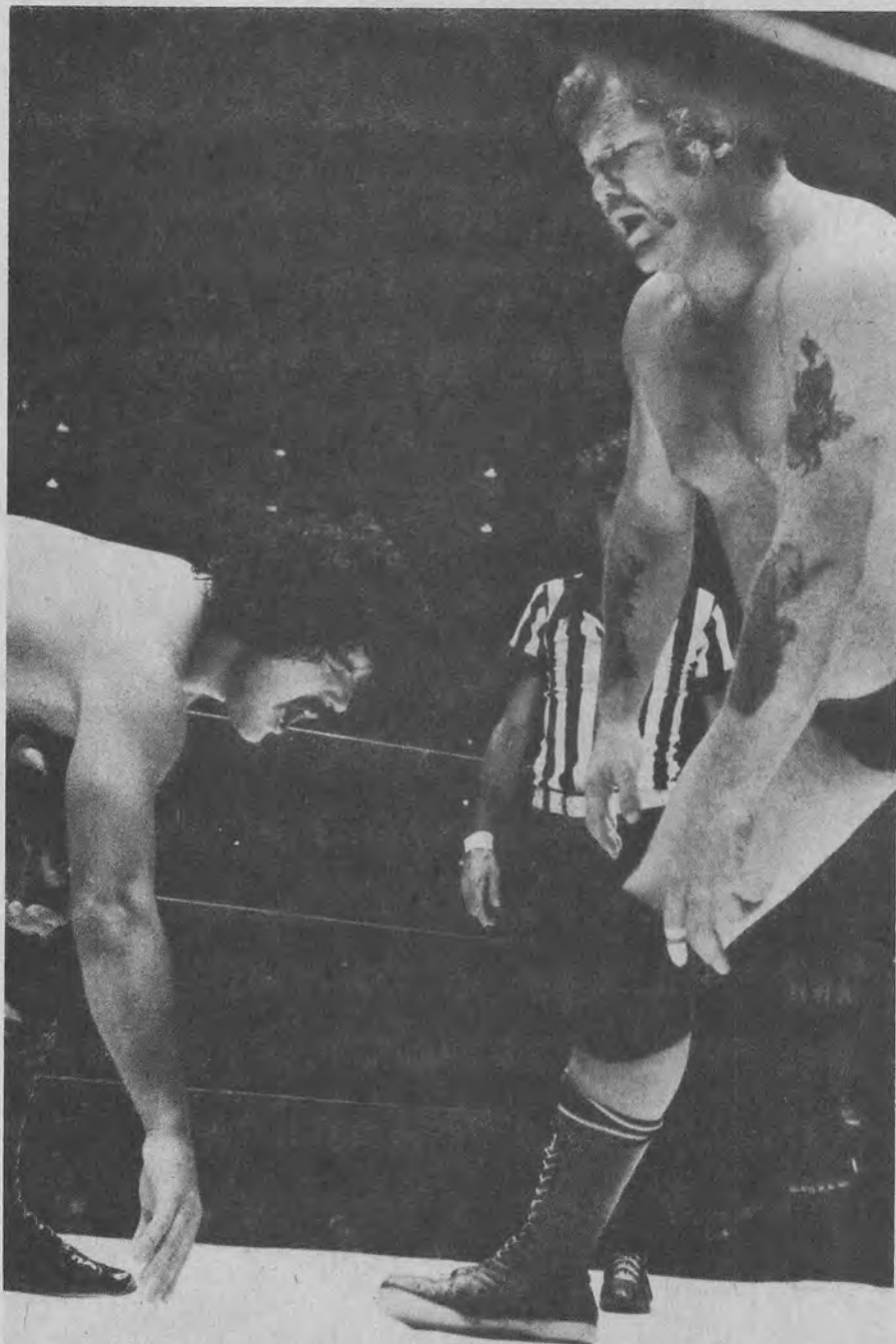




Tommy Rich continues to pursue Zbyszko's title (above), but hasn't been able to win it because of continual outside interference from Killer Brooks. Don't think Zbyszko can't wrestle: Here he outclasses Joe Lightfoot in a successful defense (left). Zbyszko, who hears the boos of the crowd every time he wrestles, warily eyes his opponent (below) before stepping into the ring.



AN "EASY MATCH"



Every wrestler wants a chance to meet the number one man. NWA champion Harley Race concentrates mainly on the most highly rated challengers, and that almost costs him his title. Jim Garvin, an up and coming superstar, almost walked away with the belt.

A champion must always be on guard. He must never take any foe too lightly. You lose a title on your off-night, when you're least prepared. Harley Race nearly lost his NWA title in exactly this manner

TWO POSTERS STAND over Harley Race's desk. One is Dusty Rhodes, mouth parted, eyes bulging, fingers pointing threateningly. The other is Jack Brisco, face contorted with intensity, neck muscles straining, eyes shining.

In every aspect, Brisco and Rhodes look down upon Race's career. Unlike any other challengers in recent memory, they vastly influence his decisions, his motivations, perhaps his future.

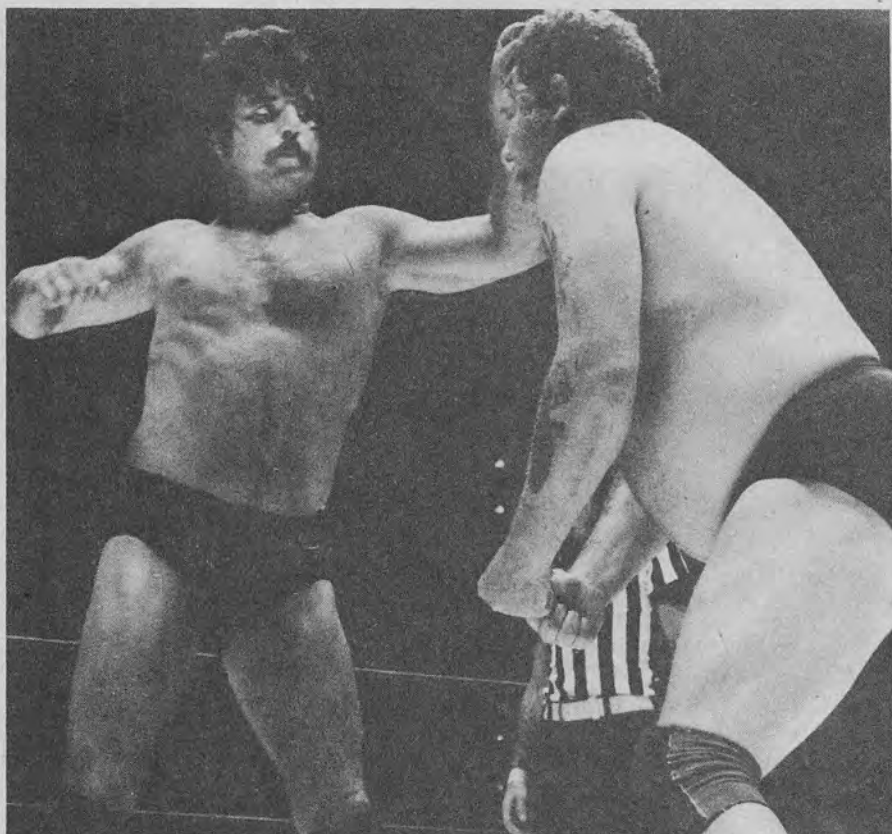
Race hastily denies any obsession, assuring all that he treats each opponent in the same manner. Unfortunately, the facts dispute Race's contention.

Each challenge evokes a different part of Race's game and personality. Against Brisco, Race is contending against a legend, a former NWA champion, a man he is constantly compared with.

ALMOST COSTS RACE HIS TITLE



Above: A confident, perhaps over-confident, champion reacts to the announcement of his name. Above right: Garvin aims a right at Race's exposed face. Right: With Race falling against the ropes, Garvin throws a flurry of punches and opens a cut on the champion's forehead.



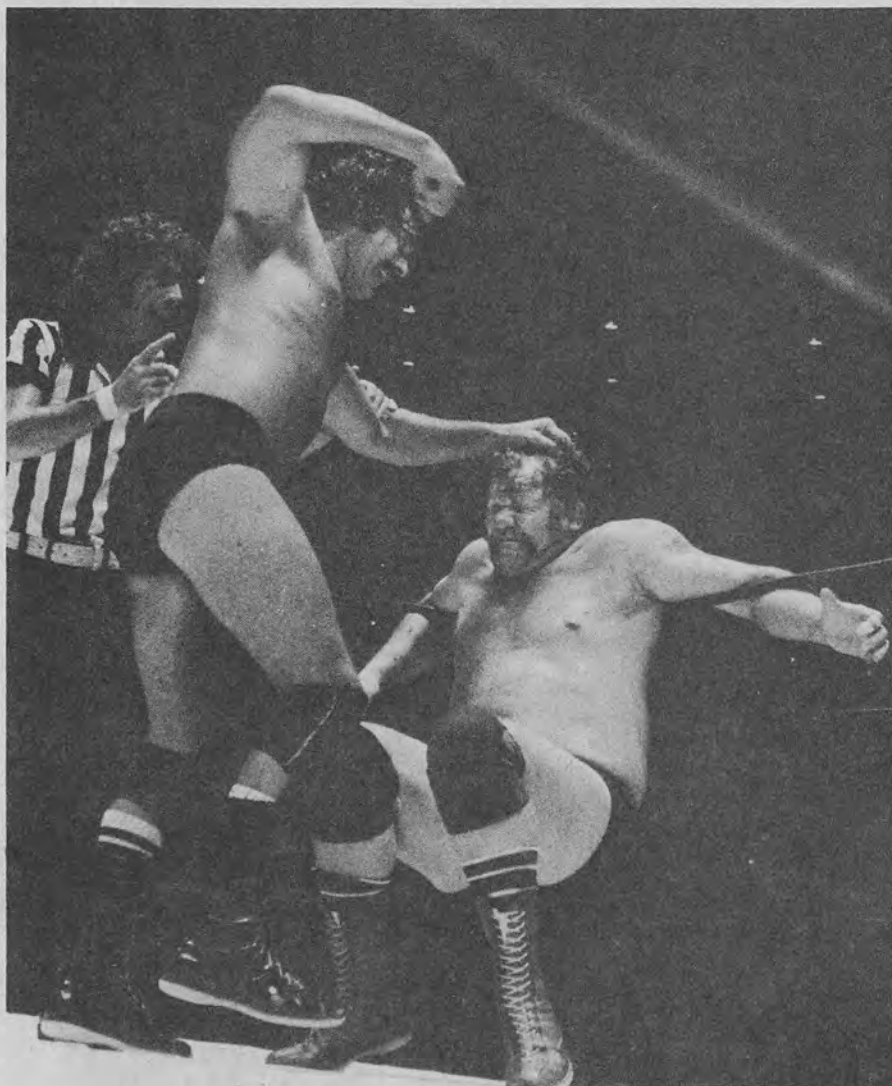
"Me and Jack are different. A lot different. How anyone can say he's in my league amazes me," snorts Race.

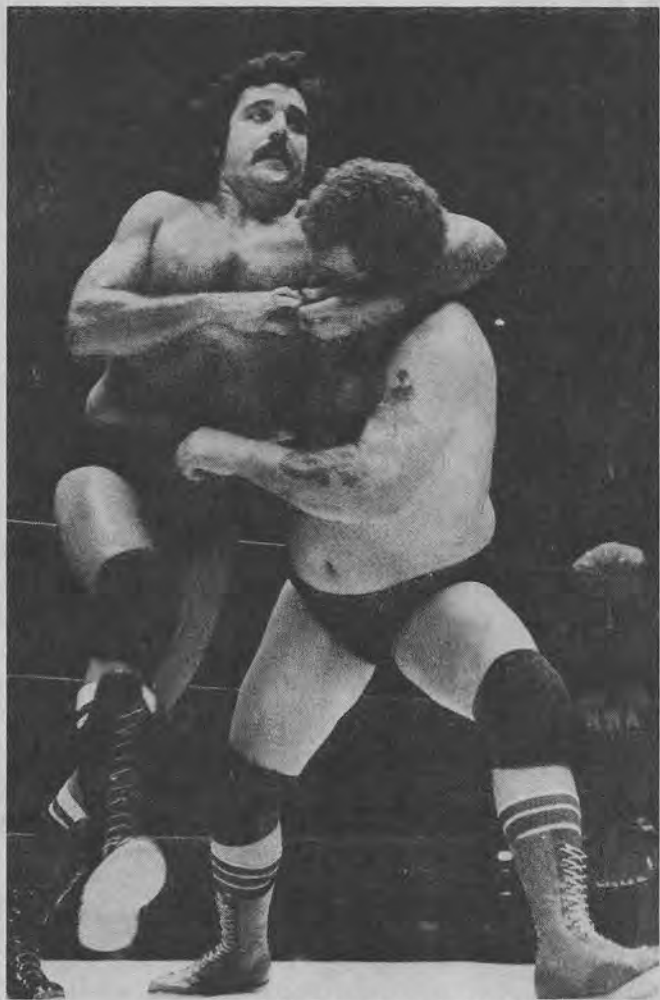
Yet comparisons with Brisco rankle Race. Many fans warmly remember Brisco's reign. His graceful dignity, his generosity to both foes and friends earn him widespread praise. Race is simply not the type of man.

Harley Race takes a while to understand. He's simple, direct, and blunt. He doesn't profess to be a Jack Brisco because Race doesn't profess or try to be other than what he is.

"Guys want that flourish, that hand-grabbing, how-are-ya type of champion," said Race, bitterness edging his tone. "If I don't like someone, I ain't gonna stand up and say what a fine and dandy challenger he can be.

"Some champs, like Brisco, they think how much better they are





Top left: Race attempts to push Garvin across the ring to escape a headlock. Top right: Race briefly takes the advantage and executes a neckbreaker. Race retained his championship when he was disqualified for throwing Garvin over the top rope.

Race can never forget the night Rhodes took the title. Nor can Race forget those days when he was challenger, instead of champion. Most importantly, Race cannot shake the worry that it could happen again.

"Anyone who's ever been champ knows that someday, you'll pack up the boots and the trunks and call it quits. You can't stay than the rest of the world. Hell, I'm a champ, but that don't make me any better than the guy drivin' the truck or the cab or workin' the lathe.

"This is a job and I try to do it as best I can. I can't go worrying about what others did before me or will do after me," said Race. "All I want is people to lay off the stupid comparisons. If they want anything to compare, let the toads talk about how I crush Brisco in the ring."

champion forever. It doesn't work that way. Life ain't that nice," Race said.

"All you can hope and strive for is holdin' onto the belt for as long as you can. Once burnt, you wonder if a guy has your number, like Rhodes. Now I've wrestled tubby enough times to realize he'll never take my belt. But the fans don't know that. They're always waitin' for me to slip and lose to tubby.

"Ain't gonna happen, gang. No way I'm losin' to tubby. Fans should stop waitin' cause it ain't gonna happen. But what I gotta do to once and for all destroy doubts, is whip tubby till he's black, blue, and purple, until his tubby body looks like strawberry ice cream.

"Once that happens, I'll rest easy."

Sadly, Race spends so much of his energies focusing on Brisco

and Rhodes that he neglects other, equally serious contenders. Such a slippage nearly cost him his NWA title in a bout against Jim Garvin.

One of wrestling's rising young stars, Garvin is a dangerous foe for someone psyched for the bout. When a champ is lazy, like Race was at times, Garvin can swoop down and seize the title.

"Yeah, things got kinda tough out there," remarked Race.

At one point, ringside observers were unanimous in predicting a title change. Again, they underestimated Race's uncanny survival instincts. Using his battered fists as a bludgeoning ram, Race beat Garvin wobbly, then threw the youngster over the top rope before he could recover, resulting in a disqualification.

"I'm still champ," snapped Race. "Bring on Brisco and Rhodes." □

BIG JOHN STUDD

**"I'LL
PROVE
DINO
BRAVO
IS A
LIAR!"**

A PILE OF gifts obscures the cane-colored coffee table sitting in the center of John Studd's living room. Fans from all over the nation send him things. Some gifts are expressions of love from female fans: roses, hand-made sweaters, and clay ashtrays. Others are expressive of contempt, like clumps of rotting garlic and tiny voodoo dolls with Studd's features drawn across the tiny face.

Some generous fans send

Studd tapes for his Betamax. A fanatic about advance scouting, Studd collects tapes of all types of foes, determined never to be surprised.

But Studd was recently surprised. Make that shocked. A fan sent a copy of a television tape from the AWA area. Not thinking much of it, Studd simply slipped the cartridge into his 25-inch color TV, sat back on the couch, and tore open a can of beer.

"Man, when I saw that liar I

spilled half a can on my pants," recalled Studd.

The instigation of Studd's angered surprise was an interview with Dino Bravo. Several months ago, Bravo and Studd wrestled in the Mid-Atlantic. Their brutal feud ranked among the most vicious in Mid-Atlantic annals.

According to Studd, Dino Bravo was a slimy worm who slithered out of the area and into the AWA for reasons of health.





"His health, man, 'cause he was about to lose his health," snarled Studd.

Yet in the interview, Bravo contends otherwise.

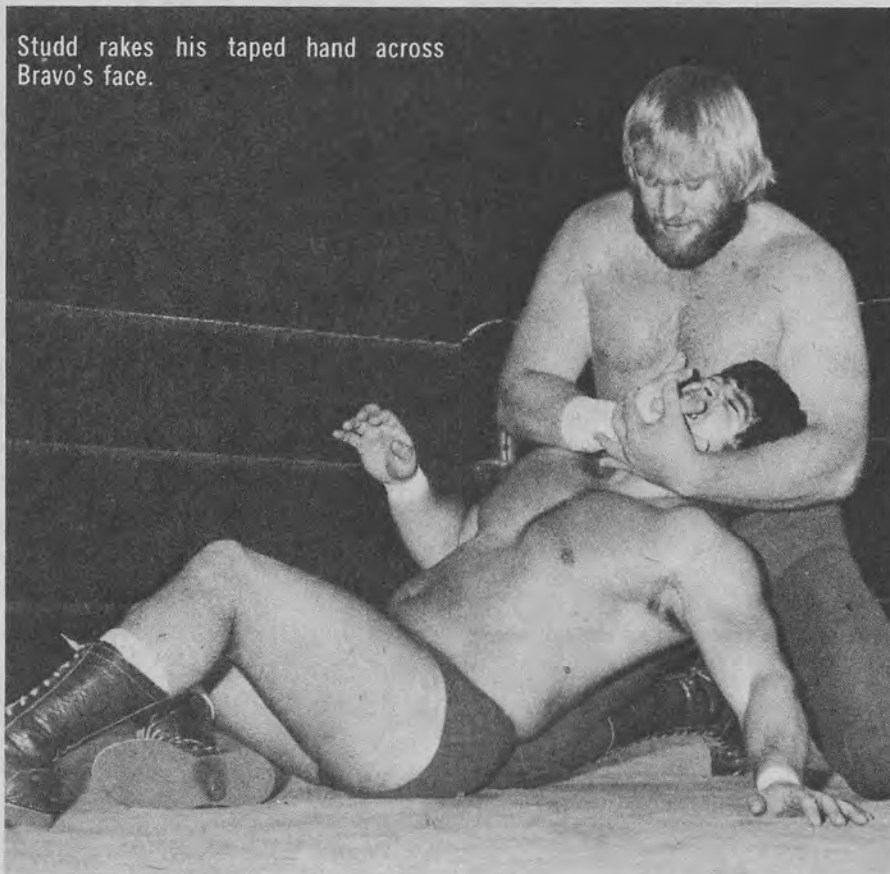
"Watch this, just, just watch this, see what he says," Studd's

hands trembled around the cartridge as he slipped it into his television.

"Just watch," Studd grumbled, pointing at the screen.

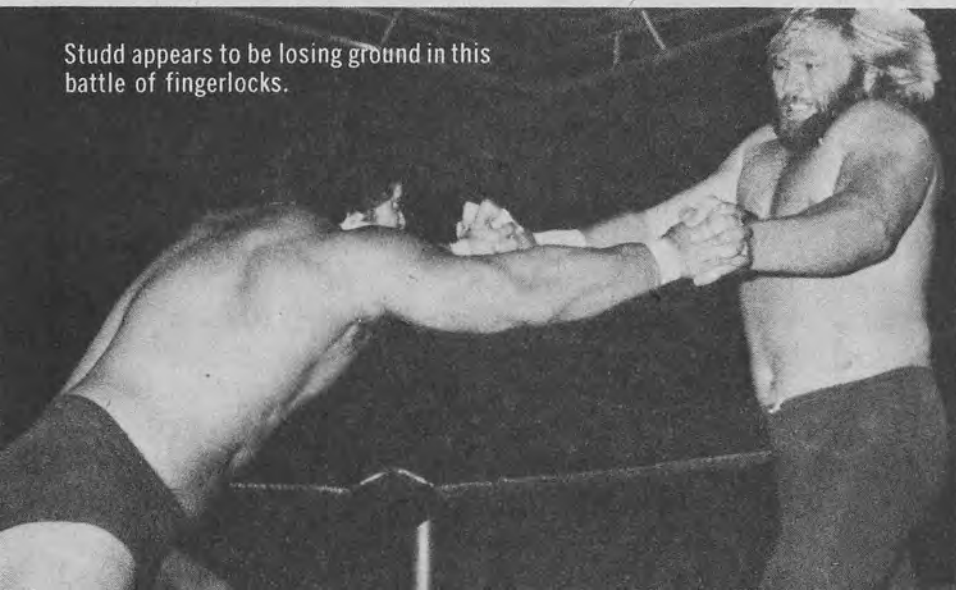
Studd flipped on the switch.

Studd rakes his taped hand across Bravo's face.



John Studd faces quite a mission. Dino Bravo is known throughout wrestling for his honesty. To lie goes completely against Bravo's nature. He would sooner absorb brutal physical punishment than tell a lie. Yet Studd insists he can prove Bravo lied. If so, that could ruin Bravo's career

Studd appears to be losing ground in this battle of fingerlocks.



Bravo's chiseled features cleared and formed, a microphone dangling beneath his strong chin.

"... are great, great wrestlers in the AWA," Bravo said. "They do give you one real interesting match. Nobody here is overrated like in the Mid-Atlantic area. Back then, I was wrestling this stiff named John Studd.

"I can't even remember how many times I whipped his face,"

(Continued on page 62)

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SUPERSTARS

(Continued from page 23)

certain wrestler is liked or despised.

In the following section, eight of wrestling's greatest personalities select the one man they believe is a genuine superstar. The only restriction was that none of our panelists could select himself.

Our panel consisted of former two-time WWF champion Bruno Sammartino, former WWF titleholder Ivan Koloff, former six-time NWA World champion Lou Thesz, former U.S. champion Rick Steamboat, former top contender for rookie of the year Terry Taylor, former NWA tag team champion Dick Murdoch, former National champion Mr. Wrestling II, and WWF champion Bob Backlund.

As you can see, our panel is made up of a vast cross-section of wrestling styles and philosophies. Each panelist was free to use any standard he wanted. Some based their judgment on a man's success, the number of titles or title opportunities he has had during the course of his career. Some based their selection simply on a man's style, the number of perfectly polished maneuvers he unveils during a match.

Unfortunately, the word "superstar" is often bandied about, at times carelessly. Too often, glaring faults are ignored beneath the weight of other abilities.

Yet the old axiom, it takes one to know one, aptly applies to this fascinating section. For we have assembled some of the greatest superstars of our time. If anyone should know what makes a superstar, it is they. □

BRUNO SAMMARTINO

(Continued from page 24)



Ken Patera squeezes the air from Sammartino with a bearhug. Bruno knows first-hand of Ken's strength.

great wrestler. He has immense strength, the kind that can squeeze a man's head like an orange. Take it from me, I speak from very painful experience.

Patera is very quick, which lets him get out of the way of blows another man would be unconscious from. Again, I speak from experience.

And Patera, when he wants, can wrestle scientifically with the best around. He has some brilliant maneuvers, the kind you just don't see other men do.

Put his physical attributes together with his quick intellect and you have a great man.

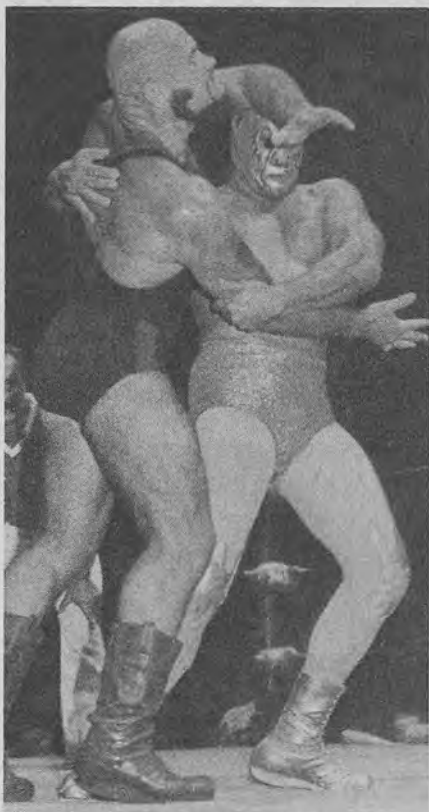
But, I only wish, as I have said on many occasions, that Patera would go straight. I'm sure he will laugh when he reads this and say Sammartino is a fool. Well, I won't let his personality interfere with my belief. Ken Patera is a real superstar. □

IVAN KOLOFF

(Continued from page 25)

showed him some myself. Our instructor, comrade Boris Malenko, took great care in training us since he detected genius from the very first day.

Mascaras' aerial maneuvers were straight from the textbook, Soviet Democratic Wrestling Moves, a book I updated recently. Thus I can take great pride in declaring a fellow Soviet wrestler, Mil Mascaras, as a superstar.



Mil Mascaras positions Ivan Koloff for a hiproll. Koloff claims that Mil received his wrestling training in the Soviet Union.

We were taught modesty, for in our country, unlike America, all are treated equally. That is why I refrain from undue bragging. But since this magazine begged for my opinion, I must put aside modesty.

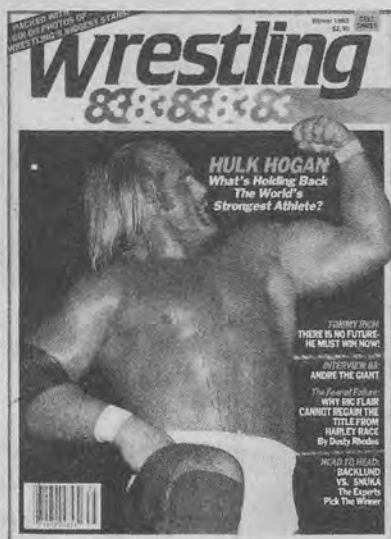
Mil Mascaras is a great wrestler, like me. □

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BOB BACKLUND

(Continued from page 26)



Luckily for his opponents, Andre the Giant is a merciful man. He is, however, easily angered.

I dread the thought of wrestling Andre. How do you handle a man that large? He can rip the top of your head off like a flip-top can of beer. For a man that immense, he has deceptive speed. Plus watching Andre get angry is truly frightening.

No one can stack up to Andre in any category. He is a great wrestler.

But more than that, Andre has amazing self-discipline in the ring. Even when he gets angry, he is still in control of the match, never deviating from his pre-match strategy. And another thing, Andre won't hurt an opponent unnecessarily. He has depths of kindness as deep as the Atlantic Ocean.

Yes, Andre the Giant is the superstar in wrestling. ☐

DICK MURDOCH

(Continued from page 27)

coulda taken the easy way out on a lotta occasions, but that ain't the measure of the man. I hear talk about other guys bein' tough. But Rhodes is the only one willin' to wrestle in pain. And Dusty keeps comin' on even when old men like Race cheat him outta the title.



Dusty Rhodes held the NWA title briefly in 1979 (above). Dick Murdoch has tremendous respect for his old Outlaws partner (below).



I tell ya, there ain't none in the world who can measure up to Dusty Rhodes. The dude is a superstar, a great, great wrestler. The hell with the rest of 'em. If they had guts, those champs would wrestle Dusty or shut their faces for good. ☐

MR. WRESTLING II

(Continued from page 28)



Tony Atlas brings Harley Race to the verge of unconsciousness (above). Tony displays his awesome physique (below).



what he sees others do into his own game plan and according to his own abilities.

But there isn't anything he can't do. All the potential is spread out before him. I know Atlas really wants greatness. Just talking to Tony convinced me he has the inner determination to succeed where others of near-similar ability might fade. Tony will do whatever he must to triumph. That, and his superhuman talents, convince me that he is a superstar. ☐

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TERRY TAYLOR

(Continued from page 29)



Bob Backlund lifts Superstar Billy Graham high in the air to perform his atomic spinecrusher. Backlund, a young champion, will go out of his way to help those starting out in the sport.

out with a few things. And I'll say that he really knows what he's talking about.

Fans really flock to Bob's side. There's a good reason. He's one of them. Fans see themselves in Bob Backlund. Others are so nasty and cold, but not Bob. He is just one of the people, a good guy who worked hard and drove his natural skills toward a dream, the heavyweight wrestling championship of the whole world.

No matter where you go, some young wrestler will talk about Bob and his eyes will light up with admiration. It's like, if Bob Backlund can do it, why can't I?

I guess I sound awestruck. Well, I don't mean to. It's just that Backlund's a great man and a great wrestler, to me and a lot of other guys. □

LOU THESZ

(Continued from page 30)



Lou Thesz officiates a match between NWA champion Harley Race and Tony Atlas (above). Before his conversion to scientific wrestling, Ric Flair batters Rick Steamboat (right).

hard, persistent diligence. Even when he first lost the title, Race never gave up. He just squared his shoulders and tried again and again until he regained the belt.

I know what it takes to come back after losing a title. Most guys just give up. Not Race. He knew he'd have to make sacrifices, knew he'd have to ignore the cutting remarks. He knew if he was going to win back his championship, he'd have to show the whole world what he's made of.

Anyway you slice it up, Harley Race is a proven champion. He has talent, he has a strong will and mind, and above all, he's got enough guts for an entire army. I think he's just one helluva superstar. □

RICK STEAMBOAT

(Continued from page 31)

Ric Flair has the most potential of any wrestler alive. But he has to learn to channel that into a more disciplined game plan. I think Ric lets his temper get the best of him and wrestles far too much on emotion. I know, I'm susceptible to the same outbursts of temper and the same irrational fits.



I guess for young guys like us, controlling your rage is the hardest thing. I have fallen victim to the same temper tantrums as Ric. Sometimes I let my hatred for an opponent blind me to an opening. That isn't good. When Ric learns how to control himself, he'll be totally overwhelming. □

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BOB DUNCUM

(Continued from page 37)

Why is it that other wrestlers are permitted the luxury of deciding their own fate while he has to fly off to New York at a moment's notice? Technically, the answer is that Bob Duncum agreed to "open contracts" in both the WWF and Mid-Atlantic areas to wrestle anyone the promoters wanted him to. However, while such contracts generally provide a clause whereby a wrestler can decline to leave the area he currently wrestles in, that particular provision was left out of Duncum's contract.

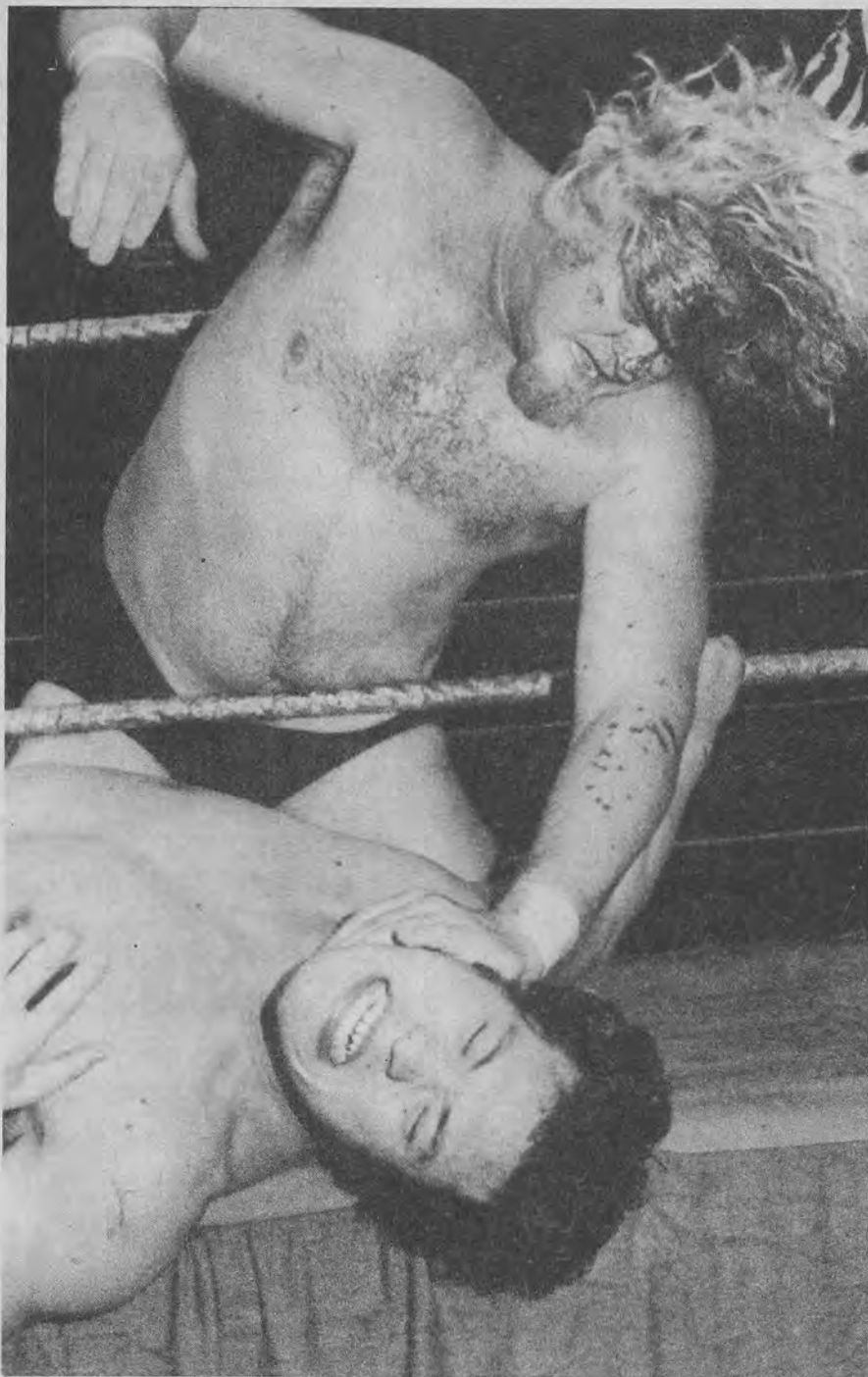
"It was there when I signed it," he claims. "Somebody is trying to get me. Maybe it's more than one person. Or maybe it's the whole sport."

Duncum would get just a few hours sleep before he would have to get up and devise some sort of plan to wrestle Inoki. His chances would be very slim. You cannot defeat a man like Inoki wrestling defensively. Yet, he would have to wrestle defensively to protect his injured forehead.

He could only hope that Inoki would have an off night. He rarely does.

Inoki immediately went after Duncum's forehead. One quick flick of his fingers and the bandage was gone. Another flick and out came the stitches.

Soon both wrestlers were covered with blood. But it all belonged to Duncum. One can say what they like about the Texan, but it can never be said that he lacks courage. He fought back bravely, seemingly becoming stronger as his body grew weaker. Finally, the referee, who was ordered by the ringside physician to keep close tabs on the injury, had no choice but to stop the contest. Duncum



Bleeding profusely from the opening moments of the match, a weakened Duncum uses his last ounce of strength in an assault on World Martial Arts Champion Inoki. Eventually, the referee determined Duncum to be unfit to continue.

objected briefly, but knew the referee had done the right thing.

"You wrestle Blackjack Mulligan one night and he rips your face open," Duncum said. "Then you have to wrestle Inoki in another part of the country the next day? What kind of life is this? It's not fair, but will they

allow me to get out of my contract? No! They want to ruin me and they're succeeding. Damnit, they're succeeding!

A tapping on the dressing room door silenced the enraged wrestler.

"Telegram, Mr. Duncum," a voice said. □

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Color Starshot: Koloff & Smirnoff



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PWI/May 81
Color Poster: Mr. Wrestling II



PWI/Oct 81
Color Poster: Ted DiBiase



PWI/Jan 82
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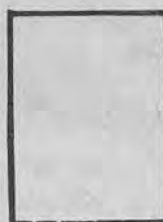
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(Continued from page 35)



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Most referees agree that Abdullah is the most difficult wrestler to control. Scrappy McGowan tries to pry a biting Butcher off Tony Atlas (above). Abdullah punctures the skin around Carlos Colon's eyes (below).



ued. "We were at a convention when one of the world's top commissioners brought up the subject of Abdullah. At the time, Abdullah was becoming a contender and we had to seriously think about the possibility of him holding a title. We all agreed that it would be bad for wrestling in a number of ways. Abdullah is a maniac. I'm choosing the word maniac very carefully. Emotionally, he's out of control. Is that the kind of man we want the world to see as wrestling's champion? That's what the commissioner asked us. To that question, we all said no.

"So the commissioner said we had to make sure he didn't win a



The Butcher grabs Terry Funk by the hair and repeatedly slams his right fist into the former NWA champion's face. Abdullah has proved he can wrestle with championship-caliber wrestlers, but he will still never get a chance to wrestle a champion.

major title. The most effective way of doing that is making sure Abdullah never gets a title shot. It was decided a decade ago. In that time, Abdullah has been frozen out of the title scene. Everyone, and I mean every official in wrestling for the past 10 years, has been responsible.

"I'm not proud of it. The man, whatever you think of him, has repeatedly earned the right to a title shot. Yet we denied him that chance. It's not fair. Blacklisting is a horrible practice. Still, I go along with it. I think it's better for wrestling, at least in the short run. What this will do in the long run is anybody's guess."

The official drew silent for a moment and then continued. "I want to make clear that only Abdullah is on the blacklist. It makes it easy to remember, doesn't it? That's why nothing is written down. No one can prove anything. It's a perfect ... I was about to say it's a perfect crime. I'm not sure it's a crime. I am sure that I wish I never had to be put in this position.

(Continued on page 58)

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ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER

(Continued from page 57)

"I guess I'm doing this interview because I want this known. I don't think it will change anything, but Abdullah has the right to know he's on a blacklist. He has the right to know he legitimately has earned a title shot. We owe the man that, if nothing else.

"I don't expect this interview will change anything for him. The rest of officialdom will deny it, and publicly so will I. There's no way in hell I'll admit that I'm the one you people interviewed. I'd deny it in court. There's every possibility that I'd be blacklisted.

"You know what really scares me? I thought about this a lot before doing this interview. I'm really scared they'll blame someone else for this and blacklist him or her. Then what do I do? Will I have enough guts to say that I was the one? Will I end my career to save an innocent official? I don't know. I won't know if or until it happens.

"I do know this. The reason I'm doing the interview is that none of us is innocent. Everyone who participates in this blacklist is guilty. If your career is ruined, that's the price you pay for participating in the blacklist. You can't kick if someone puts you on it. A blacklist by its very definition is unfair. The only person with a right to talk about fair play is a person



With the referee's back turned, Abdullah uses a foreign object against Wahoo McDaniel (above). The Butcher tries to remove Terry Funk's eye (bottom).

who fights the blacklist.

"Several years ago, I thought about fighting it. Abdullah was in my territory and I was making good money off him. We're all willing to make money off him. Anyway, he earned a title shot. I went to the board and said we should consider giving it to him just this once. I won't mention names, but the champion at the time should have been able to defeat Abdullah. After I made my suggestion and pointed out there'd be only a minimal risk, there was dead silence. Without even giving me the courtesy of a discussion, someone then changed the subject and no more was heard about Abdullah's title shot. *Not one of those officials even dared talk about it!* That's what a blacklist does.

"That doesn't excuse me. One mention in 10 years doesn't make me a hero. I could have forced the issue, but I didn't. Look, Abdullah as champion would be a disgrace to the sport. It would hurt us, every single one of us. I don't minimize that. At the same time, we should have to face that risk rather than institute a blacklist.

"At times I wonder if the blacklist isn't worse for wrestling than Abdullah's title reign could ever be."



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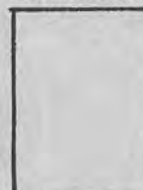
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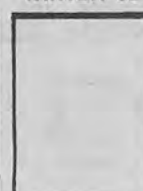
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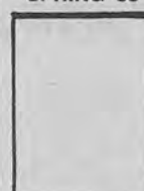
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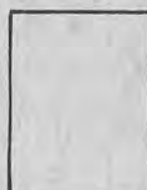
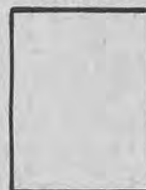
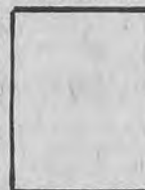
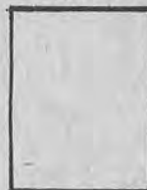
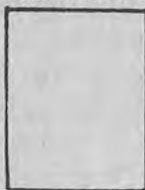
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BIG JOHN STUDD

(Continued from page 47)

said Bravo, laughing derisively. "talk about overrated wrestlers. He has no style, no grace, no sense of ring presence noreven the slightest hint of talent. I feel sorry for those great Mid-Atlantic fans who must suffer through watching Studd stumble around the ring every night."

Wheezing ragefully, Studd stumbled to his feet and twisted the set off.

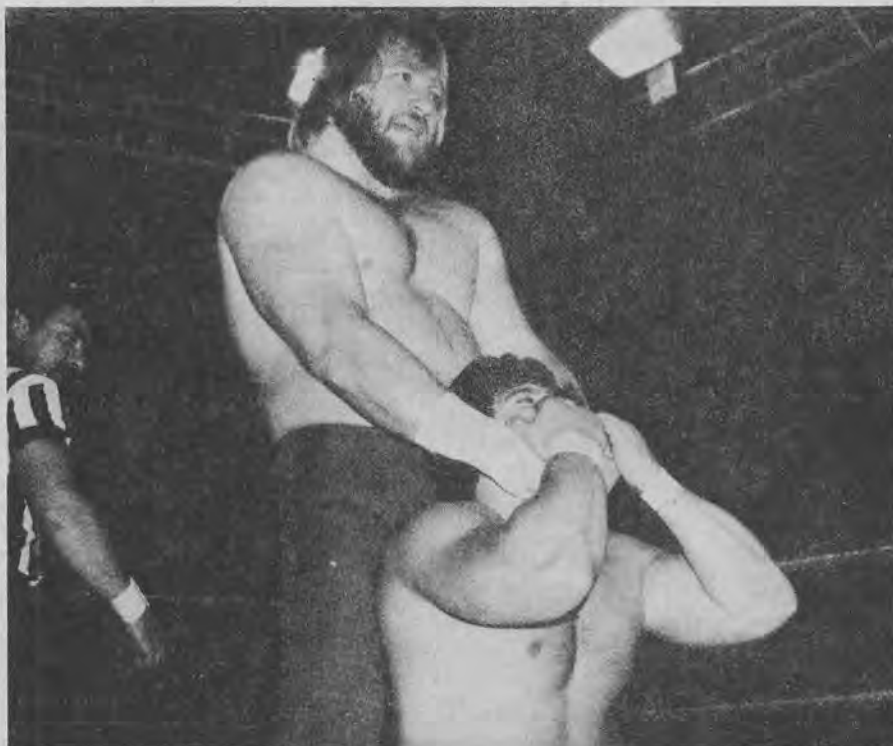
"How dare he say that," thundered Studd. "That piece of garbage has nerve getting up on television and making statements like that. Well, now we'll see if Dino Bravo really has any guts. I'm going up to the AWA. I'll prove Dino Bravo is a liar!"

Such animosity set a dramatic stage for the Bravo-Studd battle. But they weren't finished issuing pre-match threats.

"Well, I'm very glad Studd has decided to come up to the AWA," said Bravo. "Now AWA



Studd uses his superior height to gain the advantage in a battle of strength (above) and grips his fingers around Bravo's throat (below). Studd was out to prove that Bravo had slandered him.



fans can see what a real coward looks like."

"I just hope Bravo has all his insurance premiums paid up," said Studd. "He's gonna need a lot of money for his long, long hospital stay."

Despite all the talk, nothing really matters in a wrestling feud except what transpires within the ring. And what transpired inside the ring (and outside as well) was one of the most vicious bouts in the AWA this year.

In the beginning, both men subjugated their intense hate and unveiled a wide range of scientific maneuvers. Suddenly, in-close fighting begat angry words and punches were exchanged. After that, every type of blow battered the men.

Dino Bravo generally avoids brawling, but, if he must, he can brawl with the very best. And he met one of the very best in John Studd.

Action spilled through the ropes and turned the arena into one giant battleground. Studd and Bravo warred unceasingly until both sagged with exhaustion. Still, they continued the war. Too much was at stake.

Finally the referee intervened and declared a double count-out. That failed to satisfy either man.

"I would've killed him if the match lasted one minute longer," panted Studd. "I know he begged the referee to stop the match. Everyone in the arena heard Bravo beg and plead. He's still a gutless wimp, far as I'm concerned."

"Let Studd stay in the AWA. I showed him he's a big punk and nothing more than a preliminary wrestler," wheezed Bravo. ☐

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SUPER TITANS

(Continued from page 33)



Hogan plants his foot in Andre's throat while pulling on the bottom rope to gain leverage. Any reservation on either man's part disappeared the moment the first blows were landed.

Andre grimaced. "I know, you are a good man who doesn't want to be considered a bully. Doggone, I can respect that and appreciate that.

"I know how you fear unleashing your full strength, Andre," continued Bruno, clapping the Giant's shoulder. "But sometimes you must let go. You must not control your anger or limit yourself by not letting go and utilizing your wonderful strength."

Andre shook his head and muttered, evidently puzzled.

"Andre, you've always been a hero to me," said Backlund. "I've always admired you for your sense of fair play. I know how you hate to hurt anyone because you're afraid people will accuse you of unfairness. I know that. Remember, we're your friends."

The Giant managed a slight smile.

"You can beat him, you can

run him through, you can do it, don't worry, you're the best, you can whup him, he's a great big tub of lard, a freak, you can do it," Fred Blassie babbled, slapping Hulk Hogan on the back.

Hogan twisted his fingers and stared at the scuffed floor.

"You can always beat a freak," insisted Lou Albano, his voice screeching with encouragement. "Freaks got no courage, they can be intimidated. Trust the Captain, son. You've got it all over the over-sized baboon.

"You gotta use our minds, rely on the collective, overpowering genius of me and Fred. We won't let you down. You can do it. Don't worry, nothing to fear but fear itself, you'll see."

Hogan shrugged and pawed at the ground.

"You gotta hurt Andre right off the bat," said Blassie. "The geek has no tolerance for pain. At the first sign of pain, he starts to whine and cry. Seen it a million times. A little blood and the pencil-necked geek sobs like the baby he is.

"So go for his throat. Be aggressive. The freak is used to battering smaller guys, that's the way he's made his rep. He ain't used to handling someone like you, big, tough, mean, with a brain like me behind you. No, Andre will fall down from fear, probably rip the mat when his fat body lands, you'll do it Hogan, don't worry, you can do it, he's nothing, he's a bum, a freak, he's ugly, you'll wallop him, you'll murder him, you've got the match in your hand."

Both Andre the Giant and Hulk Hogan walked down that lonely corridor and into Shea Stadium beset by doubts.



Hogan growls at the referee who demands that he break his choke hold on the Giant. Neither man had ever entered the ring against so large an opponent.

Neither had confronted a man of similar awesome size before.

After all, tremendous size doesn't assure self-confidence. Despite their great physical skills, Andre and Hogan are mere mortals, a fact many fans forget. With complex personalities such as theirs, mere raw strength is often insufficient.

Once Andre and Hogan climb through those ropes, they are on guard 150 percent. Every fiber of their body pulses with anticipation. They review each and every strategy, shuttling their thoughts into a huge vat which pours out into brutal maneuvers rounded by years of wrestling experience.

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Those high-calorie GAIN tablets are rich in body-building materials! They not only add weight themselves, but they sharpen your appetite! You look forward to meal-times, and without even realizing it, you start to eat more and almost immediately the weight gaining process begins!

As you follow your GAIN Plan which includes nutritional high calorie mekus. You add pounds and inches to your arms, legs, chest, hips, everywhere. You'll be amazed at the fantastic transformation that occurs... as thin, unattractive areas start to develop into new magnetic appeal. You'll be

thrilled to discover that as you gain weight you will have more pep and energy for all the wonderful things in life!

THINK OF WHAT THIS CAN MEAN TO YOU

If you are one of those unfortunate people who can't wear all the new high style clothes you want to wear... if you are ashamed of the way you look in a bathing suit... embarrassed because your legs are too thin and spindly... your chest is too flat... your arms aren't the full, rounded limbs they were meant to be... If you long for a more attractive-looking body, the safe, pleasant GAIN Plan can be the answer to your prayers!

Yes, now, with the GAIN Plan to help, it's so easy, so pleasant to add pounds and inches of firm, attractive flesh... so full-filling to feel better, stronger, more vital and alive! But don't take our word for it. Prove it to yourself at our risk!

If you sincerely want to gain weight, and to look better and feel better as a result,

HERE IS OUR OFFER...

We honestly believe the GAIN Plan to be the finest and most effective product of its type sold anywhere in the world today, and to prove our confidence, we are backing that statement up with this honest, straightforward offer...

Try the fabulous new GAIN Plan in your

GAIN IS SAFE

GAIN is not a dangerous drug, medicine or a fishy-tasting oil. It is made of safe, pure ingredients, contains nothing which could possibly harm you, and may even be taken with complete safety by children.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

Send for the GAIN Plan today. Try it for 7 days entirely at our risk. If, at the end of 7 days, you haven't started to gain pounds and inches and to look better and to feel better... If you aren't convinced the GAIN Plan is a safe, pleasant, way to gain weight, don't keep it! Return the empty bottle and get your money back immediately, no questions asked!

VITAL NOTE

A current issue of a famous medical journal reports on a recent government controlled study. This study, conducted over a 24 year period on 5,000 underweight and overweight men and women, proves that being underweight is as injurious to health and longevity as being overweight.

own home at our risk. Subject it to any test you like. Weigh yourself before you start. Weigh yourself later. If you haven't started to see substantial weight gain within 7 days, and if you don't feel better and look better as a result, or, if you are not completely satisfied for any reason, PAY NOTHING! It's just as simple as that.

If you are in doubt... even if you think nothing can possibly help you, for the sake of your appearance, and your happiness, at least try it! If the GAIN Plan works the way we know it will, you'll agree it is worth the few dollars it cost.

On the other hand, if it doesn't work the way you expected, it costs you nothing, and a least you have had the satisfaction of trying it at our expense.

What could be fairer than that? The next move is up to you. Once and for all, determine to do something about your underweight! We know you'll be happy you did.

MAIL NO-RISK COUPON TODAY

GAIN PRODUCTS CORP. Dept. G731
Box 2346, Carbondale, Ill. 62901

Please send my package of GAIN Plan immediately with the understanding that if I am not satisfied, I may have my money back, no questions asked.

- ☐ One GAIN PLAN for \$9.98
- ☐ SAVE \$2.00! Order 2 for \$17.96
- ☐ SAVE \$5.00! Order 3 for \$25.00

Enclosed is \$

☐ cash, ☐ check or ☐ money order

NAME

ADDRESS

please print

CITY

STATE

ZIP

SKINNY MEN AND WOMEN ARE NOT ATTRACTIVE



... a skinny, scrawny body is no asset in social or business life. Give the GAIN Plan a chance to help build you up and put firm flesh on you.



Get in on the PROFITS in SMALL ENGINE service and repair Start your own money



BEAT INFLATION!

Cash in on the huge demand for small engine repair.

Work part time, full time right at home - we help you every step of the way.

making business!

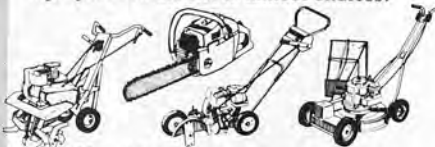
In just a short time, you can be ready to join one of the fastest growing industries in America...an industry where qualified men are making from \$10.00 to \$15.00 per hour...and that's just for labor. Parts, engines and accessories add even more to the profits.



Because the small engine industry has grown so quickly, an acute shortage of qualified Small Engine Professionals exists throughout the country. In fact, it's not unusual for a good small engine man to be three to four weeks behind in the summer and at least a week behind in the winter. When you see how many small engines are in use today, it's easy to understand why qualified men command such high prices—as much as \$17.50 for a simple tune-up that takes less than an hour!

65-million small engines are in service today!

That's right — there are over sixty-five million 2-cycle and 4-cycle small engines in service across the U.S.A. That's the official count from the Engine Service Assn., and new engines are being built at a rate of one-million per month! With fully accredited and approved Foley-Belsaw training, you can soon have the skill and knowledge to make top money servicing these engines. Home-owners and businessmen will seek you out and pay you well to service and repair their lawnmowers, tillers, edgers, power rakes, garden tractors, chain saws, mini-bikes, go-carts, snowmobiles, generators, snowblowers, paint sprayers... the list is almost endless.



No experience necessary.

You don't need to be a 'born mechanic' or have prior experience. If you can read, you can master this profitable trade right at home, in your sparetime, without missing a single paycheck. Lessons are fully illustrated—so clear you can't go wrong.

You receive trade secrets and business plans.

We guide you every step of the way, including tested and proven instructions on how to get business, what to charge, how to get free advertising, where to get supplies wholesale...all the "tricks of the trade"...all the inside facts you need to assure success right from the start.

Increased Income

"I've had about 8 years experience repairing small engines... but repairs were only minor... until I started the Foley-Belsaw Course."



Walter H. Strick Campbell, California

With our famous 'learn-by-doing' training method, you get practical 'hands-on' experience with specialized tools and equipment that you'll receive with your training *plus* a brand-new 4 HP engine—all yours to keep!

SEND FOR FREE FACTS!

You risk nothing by accepting this offer to find out how Foley-Belsaw training can give you the skills you need to increase your income in a high-profit, recession-proof business of your own.

Just fill in and mail coupon below (or send postcard) to receive full information and details by return mail. **DO IT TODAY!**

You get all this Professional equipment with your course, PLUS 4 H.P. Engine.... ALL YOURS TO KEEP.... All at NO EXTRA COST.

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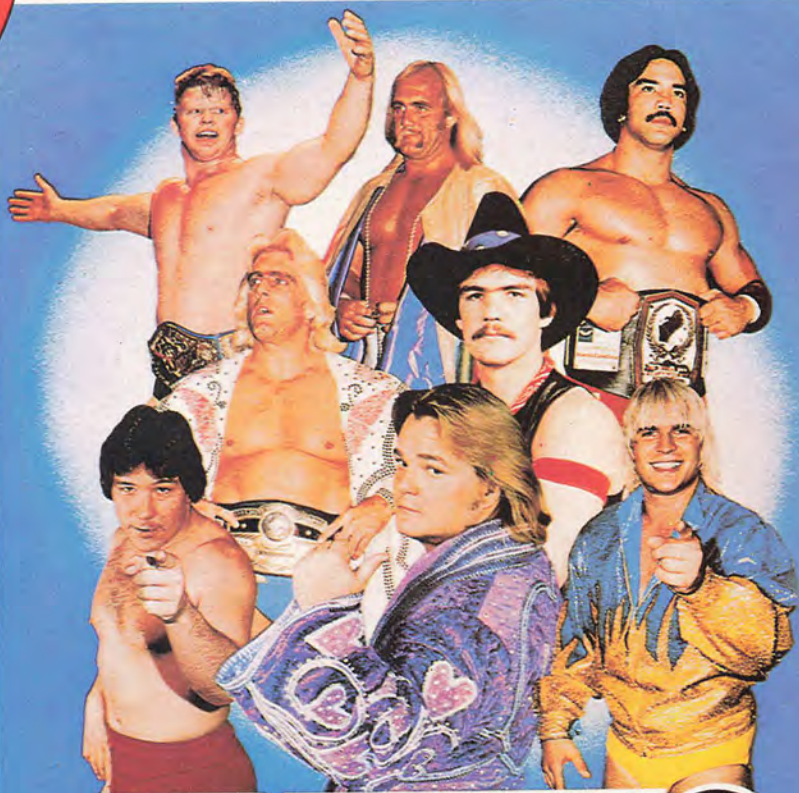
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